

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 07-0709
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Kraft, D'Adamo, Curran,
Middleton, Conaway, Holton, Reisinger, Mitchell, Young, Clarke, Welch, Crider
Introduced and read first time: June 4, 2007

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

**2 In Honor of Leah Waller – 2007 Baltimore City
3 Public School System Teacher of the Year**

4 FOR the purpose of congratulating Leah Waller, 1st Grade Teacher, Maree Garnett Farring
5 Elementary School, on being named the Baltimore City Public School System's Teacher of
6 the Year for 2007, expressing appreciation for her 8 years of dedicated service to the children
7 of Baltimore, and supporting her candidacy for Maryland Teacher of the Year; and providing
8 for a special effective date.

9 **Recitals**

10 In announcing that Leah Waller, a 1st grade teacher at Maree Garnett Farring Elementary
11 School, #203, 300 Pontiac Avenue, had been named the Baltimore City Public School System's
12 Teacher of the Year for 2007, the interim CEO aptly commented: "Ms. Waller represents the
13 best and brightest of Baltimore's teacher workforce. Her achievements are especially notable
14 because she is so early into her teaching career. I am especially excited to have this opportunity
15 to extend my personal thanks for her deep level of commitment to the children of Baltimore
16 City."

17 Ms. Waller, an 8 year veteran of the Baltimore City Public School System, received a
18 teaching degree in her native Ukraine and continued her education in this country, receiving a
19 Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Education degree in Early Childhood Education from Towson
20 University. She shares her knowledge with other education professionals as a "demonstration
21 teacher" for the Children's Literacy Initiative and as a mentor to student teachers and new
22 educators.

23 The Teacher of the Year is selected by a Blue Ribbon Committee made up of Baltimore City
24 school officials and members of the Baltimore Teachers Union. As Baltimore City Teacher of
25 the Year, Leah Waller will go on to compete for Maryland Teacher of the Year, the program that
26 brings recognition to excellence in the classroom by educators throughout the State. All local
27 Teachers of the Year are honored by the Maryland State Board of Education. The Teacher
28 chosen as Maryland Teacher of the Year represents Maryland teachers on numerous State
29 committees and advisory boards and addresses a variety of conferences and conventions
30 throughout the 1 year reign. The Maryland Teacher of the Year will be announced at a gala
31 awards dinner in the fall of 2007.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 Ms. Waller, whose special areas of interest are technology integration into classroom
2 instruction and parent involvement, is also active in her community. She tutors students at the
3 Jemicy School, serves as a camp counselor, and teaches in after school and summer programs.
4 She is a worthy role model not only in her school, but also in her community.

5 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** This
6 Body hereby congratulates Leah Waller, 1st Grade Teacher, Maree Garnett Farring Elementary
7 School, on being named the Baltimore City Public School System's Teacher of the Year for
8 2007, expresses appreciation for her 8 years of dedicated service to the children of Baltimore,
9 and supports her candidacy for Maryland Teacher of the Year.

10 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Ms.
11 Leah Waller, the Principal of Maree Garnett Farring Elementary School, the CEO of the
12 Baltimore City Public School System, and the Secretary of the Maryland State Department of
13 Education.

14 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution takes effect on the date it
15 is enacted.