

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 07-0271R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Young, Kraft, Curran, Middleton,
Welch, Clarke, Reisinger, Conaway, Holton
Introduced and adopted: March 19, 2007

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

In Support of State Legislation – House Bill 1020 – Lead Poisoning Prevention Act of 2007

FOR the purpose of supporting this legislation that would require an applicant for a contractor license to meet a specified accreditation or training requirement under specified circumstances, require a licensee applying for a license renewal to submit to the Maryland Home Improvement Commission proof of compliance with specified lead training requirements, and prohibiting a licensee from violating specified lead paint abatement accreditation requirements; urging the Honorable Chair and Members of the House Environmental Matters Committee and the Honorable Chair and Members of the Baltimore City Delegation to the 2007 Maryland General Assembly to support passage of the legislation; and petitioning the Governor to sign the measure into law.

Recitals

This legislation requires an applicant for a contractor license to meet a certain accreditation or training requirement if the applicant performs work in a residential property constructed before 1978. This effort would raise the level of knowledge and training that contractors have regarding lead poisoning and lead paint abatement, as well as help fight childhood lead poisoning in the State of Maryland.

Childhood lead poisoning is a major public health threat in Maryland, poisoning over 1,300 children in Maryland since 2005. Lead poisoning severely and irreversibly impacts the cognitive and physical development of young children. The Governor and the State have endorsed plans to meet the federal strategy to eliminate childhood lead poisoning by 2010, by creating programs and legislation that would not only remove lead paint from all residential buildings, but also provide for the mandatory education of those who are responsible for fixing and constructing the dwellings within which our children reside.

Children are exposed to lead through ingesting and inhaling lead dust, eating lead paint chips, or absorbing lead while in utero. Most of the exposures to lead can be eliminated by removing lead hazards and reducing exposure to toxic lead dust in the home, and taking further precautions to be sure that our children are exposed to minimum amounts of lead dust. Although the number of cases of childhood lead poisoning in Maryland has decreased significantly over the past few years, lead paint remains a significant health issue across the State of Maryland.

With the passing of this legislation, we can continue to fight this issue and promote health and well being for all citizens of the State of Maryland, both young and old. By increasing

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

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1 training requirements for contractors and making sure that they are certified as lead paint
2 abatement workers as well as contractors, we can be sure that the number of lead poisoning cases
3 will be further reduced in the near future and hopefully completely eradicated by the year 2010.

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this
5 Body supports this legislation that would require an applicant for a contractor license to meet a
6 specified accreditation or training requirement under specified circumstances, require a licensee
7 applying for a license renewal to submit to the Maryland Home Improvement Commission proof
8 of compliance with specified lead training requirements, and prohibiting a licensee from
9 violating specified lead paint abatement accreditation requirements; urges the Honorable Chair
10 and Members of the House Environmental Matters Committee and the Honorable Chair and
11 Members of the Baltimore City Delegation to the 2007 Maryland General Assembly to support
12 passage of the legislation; and petitions the Governor to sign the measure into law.

13 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Honorable Chair of the House Environmental
14 Matters Committee is respectfully requested to include this Resolution as part of the Committee
15 record of support for legislative proposals to pass the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act of 2007.

16 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the
17 Mayor, the Honorable Chair and Members of the House Environmental Matters Committee, the
18 Honorable Chair and Members of the Baltimore City Delegation to the 2007 Maryland General
19 Assembly, the Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of State Relations, and the Mayor's
20 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.