

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 08-0029R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, D’Adamo, Curran, Henry, Branch, Holton, Conaway,
Welch, Middleton, Spector, Cole, Young

Introduced and read first time: March 17, 2008

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Youth Commission, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Opportunity Budget - Next Phase Is Agency Status**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Baltimore City Council to support the inclusion of a Youth
4 Opportunity Budget within the Finance Department’s Recommendations to the Board of
5 Estimates and as a crucial component of the Board of Estimates’ recommendations to the
6 Baltimore City Council for approval in the fiscal year 2009 operational budget of the City of
7 Baltimore.

8 **WHEREAS**, Throughout the past 3 years of Baltimore City surpluses, City government has
9 established and funded a network of school and community-based programs to keep our children
10 safe and successful, thanks in large part to our Mayor in her advocacy when she served as City
11 Council President and to our current City Council President whose service on the Council
12 included being the Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee and a youth advocate; and

13 **WHEREAS**, In a down-turning economy, youth programs can no longer stand on the outskirts
14 of Baltimore City’s budget priorities, waiting in vain for surplus funding no longer available; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Baltimore City’s Youth Opportunity Budget is zero-based, requesting the same
16 level of City funding and the same “count” of children served as in the current fiscal year 2008
17 budget, including supplementary appropriations; and

18 **WHEREAS**, The youth of our City do require and rely on the basic supports of the
19 Opportunity Budget, including community-and-school-based after school programs, A-Teams,
20 and other relevant supports to youth safety and success; and

21 **WHEREAS**, This Council has approved and further urges the addition of fiscal year 2009
22 funding for the Experience Corps, which the City has supported for the past three years, and of
23 the Peer-to-Peer Enterprise Program; and

24 **WHEREAS**, When resources are diminished, the needs of our City’s children increase and
25 must, in fairness and justice, take priority.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That this
27 Body supports the inclusion of a Youth Opportunity Budget within the Finance Department’s
28 Recommendations to the Board of Estimates and as a crucial component of the Board of

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

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1 Estimates' recommendations to the Baltimore City Council for approval in the fiscal year 2009
2 operational budget of the City of Baltimore.

3 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this Body requests and urges the reordering of the
4 City's fiscal resources to support, as line item budget contributions, the full funding of the zero-
5 based City's Youth Opportunity Budget for fiscal year 2009, including the funding of the
6 Experience Corps and the Peer-to-Peer Enterprise Program

7 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Board
8 of Estimates, the Department of Finance, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the Council.