

Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke, *Young, Dorsey, Kost, Costello, Brannan, Cinkell*  
Prepared by: Department of Legislative Reference *Bulluck, Schleifer, Speed, Cohen, Middleto* Date: November 29, 2017

# RESOLUTION

Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee *Henry Stokes*

Also referred for recommendation and report to municipal agencies listed on reverse.

CITY COUNCIL *17-0055R*

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

## Prescription Drug Affordability Initiative

FOR the purpose of supporting the goals of the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative and calling on the State of Maryland to implement its 3 commonsense ideas to improve our citizens' access to essential prescription drugs.

*C.T. Costello*

*Paul J. Young*

*John Bulluck*

*Jim*

*R. Dorsey*

*Scott*

*Lee Lubell*

*Bill*

*[Signature]*

*Mary F. Blake*

*Robert Stokes*

*Shawn [Signature]*

**\*\*The introduction of an Ordinance or Resolution by Councilmembers at the request of any person, firm or organization is a courtesy extended by the Councilmembers and not an indication of their position.**

**Agencies**

_____	Baltimore City Public School System
_____	Baltimore Development Corporation
_____	City Solicitor
_____	Comptroller's Office
_____	Department of Audits
_____	Department of Finance
_____	Department of General Services
_____	Department of Housing and Community Development
_____	Department of Human Resources
_____	Department of Planning
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Department of Public Works
_____	Department of Real Estate
_____	Department of Recreation and Parks
_____	Department of Transportation
_____	Fire Department
_____	Health Department
_____	Mayor's Office of Employment Development
_____	Mayor's Office of Human Services
_____	Mayor's Office of Information Technology
_____	Office of the Mayor
_____	Police Department
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Board of Estimates
_____	Board of Ethics
_____	Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals
_____	Comm. for Historical and Architectural Preservation
_____	Commission on Sustainability
_____	Employees' Retirement System
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Environmental Control Board
_____	Fire & Police Employees' Retirement System
_____	Labor Commissioner
_____	Parking Authority Board
_____	Planning Commission
_____	Wage Commission
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____

**Boards and Commissions**

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 17-0055R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke, President Young, Councilmembers Dorsey, Scott,  
Costello, Burnett, Pinkett, Bullock, Schleifer, Sneed, Cohen, Middleton, Henry, Stokes  
Introduced and adopted: December 4, 2017

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Prescription Drug Affordability Initiative**

FOR the purpose of supporting the goals of the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative and calling on the State of Maryland to implement its 3 commonsense ideas to improve our citizens' access to essential prescription drugs.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, to protect our lives and our well-being, every family in Maryland requires access to affordable prescription drugs.

**WHEREAS**, skyrocketing costs are making some medicines virtually inaccessible to our families and neighbors.

**WHEREAS**, overall drug prices increased almost 9% in 2016 while general inflation increased just over 2% in the same period, and since 2013 drug prices have risen an average of 10% annually but inflation has only increased 1.2% on average since 2013.

**WHEREAS**, prescription drug spending accounted for over 22% of each health insurance premium dollar in 2014, and nearly a quarter of people in their deductible period never picked up their prescriptions from the pharmacy, presumably because of the cost.

**WHEREAS**, there are pharmacy benefit managers who reportedly ban pharmacists from discussing lower-priced drug choices with their patients.

**WHEREAS**, Maryland should continue to lead the Nation in addressing the affordability of prescription drugs, building on the State's landmark 2017 legislation banning price gouging by manufacturers of generic and off-patent drugs.

**WHEREAS**, a broad coalition of State and local activists are working to support the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative calling for:

- Allowing pharmacists to provide information to consumers about lower cost drug options;
- Requiring prescription drug corporations to provide notice of new, expensive drugs, or large price increases of older drugs, as well as public justification for those pricing decisions; and

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

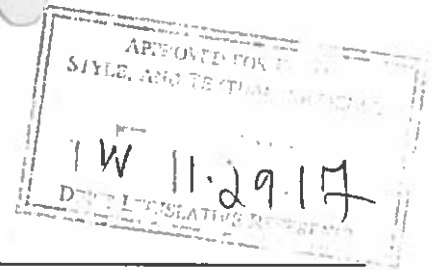
**Council Bill 17-0055R**

- 1       • Making expensive drugs more affordable by creating a new Prescription Drug Cost  
2       Review Commission to establish payment rates for expensive drugs that create significant  
3       affordability problems for Marylanders, building upon Maryland's successful tradition of  
4       health care cost scrutiny.

5       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** that the  
6       Council supports the goals of the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative and calls on the State of  
7       Maryland to implement its 3 commonsense ideas to improve our citizens' access to essential  
8       prescription drugs.

9       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the  
10      Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the  
11      Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House  
12      Speaker, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

**INTRODUCTORY\***  
**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_\_R**  
**(Resolution)**



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Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke

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**A RESOLUTION ENTITLED**

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

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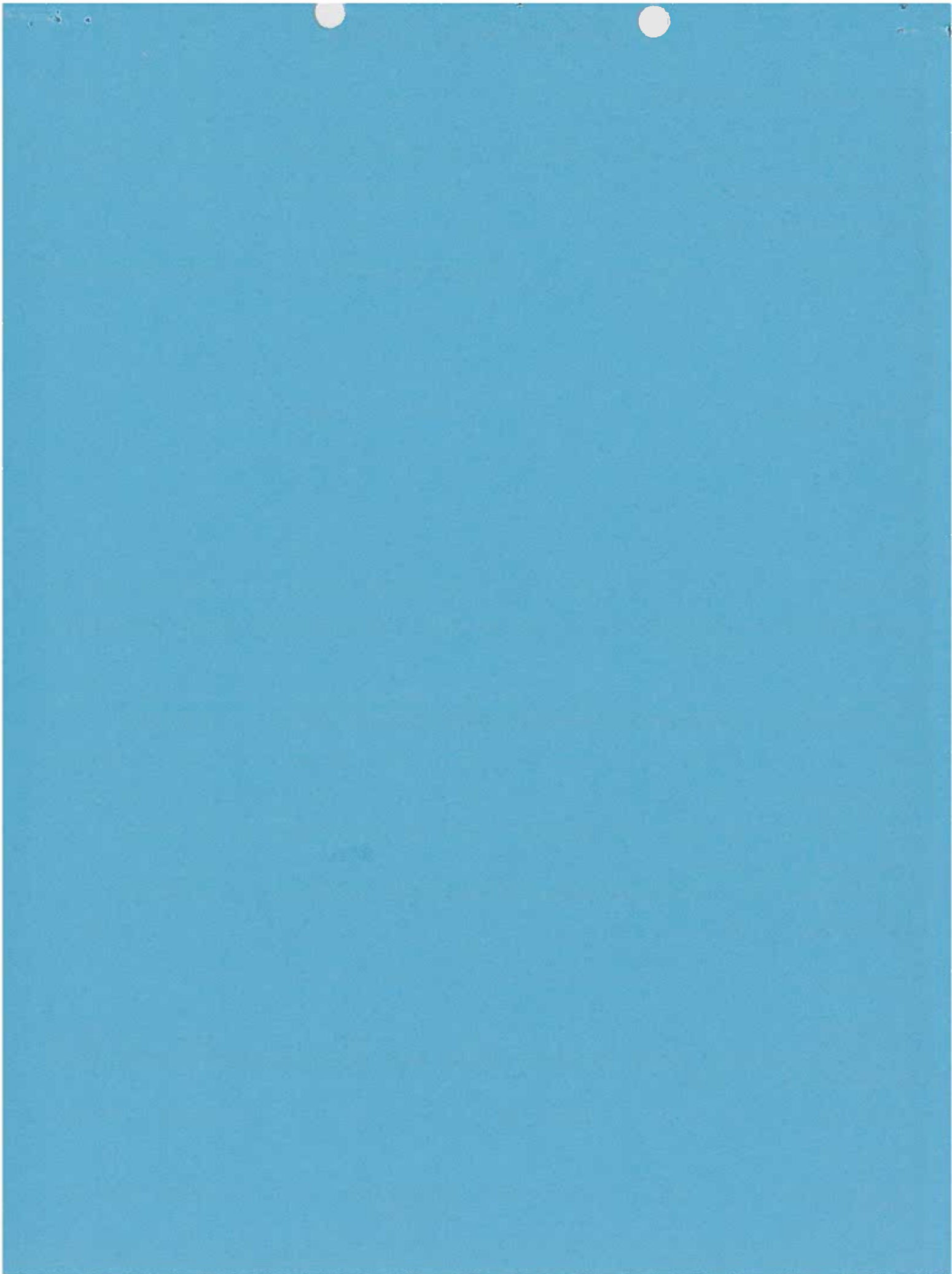
- Allowing pharmacists to provide information to consumers about lower cost drug options;

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THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

- Requiring prescription drug corporations to provide notice of new, expensive drugs, or large price increases of older drugs, as well as public justification for those pricing decisions; and
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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** that the Council supports the goals of the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative and calls on the State of Maryland to implement its 3 commonsense ideas to improve our citizens' access to essential prescription drugs.

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**ACTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL**

DEC 04 2017

FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION) \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FAVORABLE \_\_\_\_\_ UNFAVORABLE \_\_\_\_\_ FAVORABLE AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING: The Council's action being favorable (unfavorable), this City Council bill was (was not) ordered printed for Third Reading on:

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

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THIRD READING (ENROLLED) \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

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THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED) \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

WITHDRAWAL \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

There being no objections to the request for withdrawal, it was so ordered that this City Council Ordinance be withdrawn from the files of the City Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk



**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 17-0055R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke, President Young, Councilmembers Dorsey, Scott, Costello, Burnett, Pinkett, Bullock, Schleifer, Sneed, Cohen, Middleton, Henry, Stokes  
Introduced and adopted: December 4, 2017

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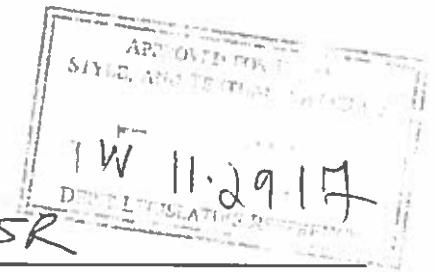
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**INTRODUCTORY\***  
**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_R**  
**(Resolution) 17-0055R**



Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

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