

Council Bill 18-0121R

1 **WHEREAS**, Youth job programs have been demonstrated to reduce crime and violence;
2 students who participated in a summer job program in Chicago had 43% fewer violent-crime
3 arrests over the 16 months following the end of the program;

4 **WHEREAS**, Youth employment has been demonstrated to teach responsibility, organization,
5 and time management and to help establish good work habits, experience, and financial stability;

6 **WHEREAS**, Adolescent employment is positively associated with high school completion,
7 college attendance, and improved employment outcomes in adulthood;

8 **WHEREAS**, Students from Community Law in Action (“CLIA”), an organization focused on
9 youth leadership development and advocacy, have led the charge for the expansion of
10 YouthWorks with their BMORE Invested campaign;

11 **WHEREAS**, CLIA’s Youth Advisory Council is working to develop a coalition of youth
12 groups and adult allies that will work together to advocate for a budget line item for a year-long
13 YouthWorks program in the 2020 Baltimore City Fiscal Operating Budget;

14 **WHEREAS**, The BMORE Invested Campaign calls for:

- 15 • Establishing a pilot program that creates a year-long YouthWorks opportunity for 350
16 14-18-year-olds in Baltimore City
- 17 • Creating better job preference questions to match students with jobs so that there is a
18 good match between the employers’ activities and the students’ interests and so that
19 students are placed in jobs that relate to their career aspirations and
- 20 • Requiring mandatory bi-weekly check-ins between supervisors and YouthWorks
21 employees and the creation and implementation of a professional development plan
- 22 • Increasing outreach and communication between youth and adults regarding youth
23 employment issues so youth are better aware of existing opportunities;

24 **WHEREAS**, A pilot program is an important first step in the effort to establish a year-long
25 YouthWorks program but it is only a first step; we must work towards the establishment of a
26 year-long job program that meets all the needs of Baltimore City youth seeking employment.

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the
28 Baltimore City Council requests that the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development,
29 Baltimore City Public School System, Baltimore City Foundation, and business leaders support
30 and work with the Community Law in Action’s BMORE Invested Campaign to expand
31 YouthWorks from two 5-week summer sessions into a year-long program that is closely aligned
32 with Career and Technical Education.

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1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
2 Director of the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development, the CEO of the Baltimore City
3 School System, the Board of Directors of the Baltimore City Foundation, and the Mayor’s
4 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.