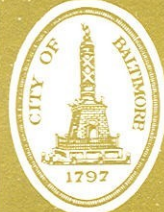


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Karen L. Sitnick, Director <i>KS</i>	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Employment Development 417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 08-0004R – Inter-Agency Violent Crime Reduction Strategy		

DATE:

**TO**

February 15, 2008

The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
Room 400, City Hall

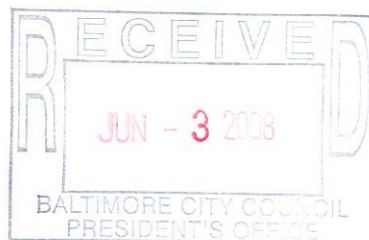
Bill No. 08-0004R requests that identified members of the Mayor's Cabinet work collaboratively to combine the unique resources of each agency to develop an interactive, inter-agency strategy to reduce acts of violent crime. Specifically, these representatives should address: health, criminal justice, recreation, employment, and other socio-economic issues confronting Baltimore City youth in a comprehensive response to the factors that contribute to or facilitate acts of violence by or upon our City's most vulnerable citizens.

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED), Baltimore City's workforce investment agency and one-stop career center operator, supports the creation of a holistic strategy to address the numerous environmental factors that can contribute to the proliferation of violent crime within the City. We believe that individuals who are productively engaged in the workforce and are able to support themselves and their families financially are less likely to be involved in criminal activities.

MOED is committed to utilizing its existing range of workforce development programs, such as its One-Stop Career center network, its Re-entry Center for ex-offenders returning to Baltimore City, and YouthWorks, the City's summer youth employment program, to minimizing the likelihood of residents of Baltimore electing to commit violent or other crimes. Early intervention strategies for citizens seeking to support themselves through a job have a proven impact on lowering crime rates. MOED welcomes to opportunity to coordinate its efforts with those of other City cabinet-level agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

cc: Jeffrey W. Smith, Executive Liaison for Public Policy, MOED



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