

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 11-0270R  
(Resolution)**

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

Introduced and read first time: March 21, 2011

Assigned to: Public Safety Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Police Commissioner, Mayor’s Office of Criminal  
Justice

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing - Criminal Injuries Compensation Board**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting representatives from the Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation  
4 Board to attend a hearing before this Council to highlight how that Board assists crime  
5 victims, explain what victims should do in order to take advantage of this assistance, and  
6 discuss with representatives of the City’s justice related agencies ways to ensure that crime  
7 victims are aware of their rights.

8 **Recitals**

9 Since 1968, Maryland has had a fund designed to help offset the economic burdens that  
10 many innocent crime victims suffer from. This fund, administered by the Criminal Injuries  
11 Compensation Board (CICB), provides compensation for medical expenses, loss of earnings, or  
12 counseling to individuals injured during a crime. It also may provide funeral expenses and  
13 payments for loss of support to dependants of homicide victims.

14 During the last fiscal year the CICB approved 950 compensation awards of up to \$45,000  
15 each for a total of \$7,337,078 in compensation to crime victims. The funding for these awards  
16 does not come from taxes, instead it is derived from fees in State and Federal courts.

17 Additionally, CICB victim services specialists assisted many other crime victims find the  
18 help that they needed in their time of need. These specialists assist crime victims with  
19 compensation claims, help them to obtain restitution through the criminal justice system from the  
20 offenders responsible for their plight, and provide victims with referrals to other agencies who  
21 can provide additional aid.

22 Although the CICB is clearly an important resource for crime victims, too many of our  
23 citizens are unaware of its existence or of how to contact the Board. It is important that the City  
24 do everything that it can to help those of our neighbors who find themselves struggling with the  
25 aftermath of a crime. Raising the profile of the CICB, and ensuring that the City’s justice related  
26 agencies and community leaders are well equipped to direct people to this resource in their hour  
27 of need, is one small way that the City can help crime victims along the road to recovery.

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

## **Council Bill 11-0270R**

1       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That  
2 representatives from the Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation Board are invited to attend a  
3 hearing before this Council to highlight how that Board assists crime victims, explain what  
4 victims should do in order to take advantage of this assistance, and discuss with representatives  
5 of the City's justice related agencies ways to ensure that crime victims are aware of their rights.

6       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
7 Executive Director of the Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, the Director of the  
8 Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice, the Police Commissioner, and the Mayor's Legislative  
9 Liaison to the City Council.