

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 07-0294R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Holton, Young, Curran, Kraft, Crider, D’Adamo, Welch,
Middleton, Clarke, Harris, President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Spector, Conaway,
Reisinger, Mitchell
Introduced and adopted: May 7, 2007

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

In Support of National Family Month

FOR the purpose of expressing support for the national celebration of the family and recognizing the importance of the more than 125,000 families in Baltimore City that provide the spiritual, economic, and social “threads” that secure the fabric of our many diverse neighborhoods.

Recitals

U. S. Census figures show that, in 2005, there were 243,000 households in Baltimore City with an average household size of 2.5 people. Families make up to 52% of these households – this figure includes both married-couple families (24 percent) and other families (28 percent) –, and nonfamily households made up 48 percent. In homage to the families of Baltimore, the Baltimore City Council endorses House Concurrent Resolution # 302:

Recognizing the importance of children and families in the United States and expressing support for the goals of National Kids Day® and National Family Month®.

Whereas, there is an epidemic of children in crisis in the United States caused by the increased stresses on children from contemporary society, which can even include instances of child abuse and neglect;

Whereas, newspaper headlines, news reports, and various studies provide evidence that children are more frequently committing acts of violence, taking illegal drugs, and committing suicide, indicating that the future of the children of the United States, and therefore the future of the Nation, is at risk;

Whereas, all families in the United States, regardless of their economic status, ethnic or cultural heritage, or geographic location, are experiencing the pressures caused by contemporary society while trying to raise and nurture their children;

Whereas, it is imperative that the people of the United States act boldly to secure the future of the Nation by halting and healing the pain of children in crisis;

Whereas, KidsPeace is the oldest, most successful, and most comprehensive not-for-profit organization dedicated solely to helping children attain the confidence and develop the courage necessary to confront and overcome crises;

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

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1 Whereas, KidsPeace has more than 1,500 caregivers helping more than 2,000
2 children each day in 25 locations across the United States;

3 Whereas, KidsPeace established National KidsDay and National Family Month to
4 recognize and focus attention on relationships between parents and children;

5 Whereas, National KidsDay is celebrated on the third Saturday of September,
6 during the period when children are returning to school, when children are subject
7 to a very high level of stress, and when there is a critical need for children to feel
8 honored, valued, supported, and loved;

9 Whereas, National Family Month is celebrated during the five-week period
10 between Mother's Day in May and Father's Day in June, which is a critical
11 adjustment period for families to prepare for children to return to the home at the
12 end of the school year and can provide a wonderful opportunity for families to
13 prepare to use their time together during the summer to grow and strengthen as a
14 family unit; and

15 Whereas, these celebrations can provide opportunities for parents, grandparents,
16 and caregivers to recognize the importance of being involved in the physical and
17 emotional lives of their children: Now, therefore be it

18 Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the
19 Congress—

20 recognizes the importance of children and families to the future of the United States;

21 expresses support for the goals of National KidsDay and National Family Month, as
22 established by KidsPeace; and

23 encourages the people of the United States to participate in local and national
24 activities and celebrations recognizing National KidsDay and National Family
25 Month.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this
27 Body supports the national celebration of the family and recognizes the importance of the more
28 than 125,000 families in Baltimore City that provide the spiritual, economical, and social
29 “threads” that secure the fabric of our many diverse neighborhoods.

30 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
31 Maryland Congressional Delegation, the Executive Director of the Mayor’s Office of State
32 Relations, and the Mayor’s Liaison to the City Council.