

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 09-0408  
(Resolution)**

---

Introduced by: Councilmembers Holton, D’Adamo, Kraft, Cole, Middleton, Henry, Clarke,  
Branch, Welch, Spector, Conaway, Curran  
Introduced and read first time: October 5, 2009

---

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **In Support of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

3 FOR the purpose of celebrating 25 years of awareness, education, and empowerment given the  
4 nation by the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month organization, supporting the efforts  
5 of the Baltimore City Health Department to combat the disease, and encouraging Baltimore  
6 City residents to increase their knowledge concerning the causes, prevention, and treatment  
7 of breast cancer; and providing for a special effective date.

8 **Recitals**

9 In 2009, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM), a partnership of national  
10 public services organizations, professional medical associations, and government agencies  
11 working together to promote breast cancer awareness, share information on the disease, and  
12 provide greater access to screening services, celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

13 The organization has been in the forefront of promoting awareness of breast cancer issues  
14 and has evolved along with the national dialogue on breast cancer, but its membership  
15 recognizes that despite the great strides made in breast cancer awareness and treatment, there  
16 remains much to be accomplished.

17 While October is recognized as National Breast Cancer Awareness month, NBCAM and  
18 healthcare professionals encourage women to seek empowerment throughout the year through  
19 education, regular self-breast examination, regular visits and annual mammograms, adhering to  
20 prescribed treatment, and knowing the facts about recurrence.

21 In kicking-off Baltimore City’s celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Mayor,  
22 joined by the Maryland Affiliate of Susan G. Komen For The Cure, announced several  
23 initiatives, including a state-wide substantive breast cancer awareness action plan, a symbolic  
24 pink lighting of the City Hall dome, and the display of a pink ribbon on the War Memorial Plaza.

25 This year’s Komen Maryland Community Profile is a 10-month study to evaluate the state of  
26 breast cancer in their service area, which includes all of Maryland except for Montgomery and  
27 Prince George’s Counties. The profile revealed that Maryland is ranked fifth in the nation for  
28 cancer death rates. And while women in Maryland are not diagnosed with the disease any more  
29 frequently than the national average, they are dying from breast cancer at higher rates.

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

## Council Bill 09-0408

1 This year alone an estimated 810 women in Maryland will die from death cancer. Baltimore  
2 City ranks third in the State for breast cancer mortality rates among women of all ages and races.  
3 In the City a total average of 163 women die of breast cancer each year.

4 African American women in the State and City do not have as high an incidence of breast  
5 cancer as white women, but have a higher death rate because of delay in diagnosis and treatment.  
6 Komen Maryland has developed an action plan to address hard-hit areas to increase breast cancer  
7 awareness and to stress the importance of early detection and screening in African American  
8 communities.

9 As stated by the Mayor: "The cancer rates affecting women in Baltimore is unacceptable.  
10 These women are our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, our aunts, our friends, our neighbors,  
11 and our co-workers. They are dying of a disease that can be treated effectively if detected early  
12 enough. We must do everything in our power to improve our education, outreach, and  
13 prevention to save lives."

14 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That  
15 this Body celebrates the 25 years of awareness, education, and empowerment given the nation by  
16 the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month organization, supports the efforts of the Baltimore  
17 City Health Department to combat the disease, and encourages Baltimore City residents to  
18 increase their knowledge concerning the causes, prevention, and treatment of breast cancer; and  
19 providing for a special effective date.

20 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the  
21 Mayor, the Executive Director of Komen Maryland, the Baltimore City Health Commissioner,  
22 and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

23 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution takes effect on the date it  
24 is enacted.