

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 21-0092
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Cohen, Dorsey, Bullock

Introduced and read first time: June 8, 2021

Assigned to: Ways and Means Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **Charter Amendment – Homegrown Heroes Fund**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the establishment of a continuing, nonlapsing Homegrown
4 Heroes Fund, to be used exclusively to administer a Public Safety Apprenticeship Program
5 for youth and young adults who are Baltimore City residents and between the ages of 11
6 through 21 years old; requiring that the annual Ordinance of Estimates include a specified
7 appropriation for the Homegrown Heroes Fund; and submitting this amendment to the
8 qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

9 BY proposing to add

10 Article I - General Provisions

11 Section(s) 17

12 Baltimore City Charter

13 (1996 Edition)

14 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the
15 City Charter is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

16 **Baltimore City Charter**

17 **Article I. General Provisions**

18 **§ 17. SPECIAL FUND FOR HOMEGROWN HEROES.**

19 (A) *AUTHORIZATION.*

20 (1) BY ORDINANCE, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE MAY ESTABLISH A
21 CONTINUING, NONLAPSING FUND FOR PURPOSES OF PROMOTING CAREERS IN LAW
22 ENFORCEMENT, FIRE SUPPRESSION, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND EMERGENCY
23 MANAGEMENT TO YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS IN BALTIMORE CITY.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 (2) THESE PURPOSES INCLUDE:

- 2 (I) PROVIDING DIRECT FUNDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITYWIDE “PUBLIC
3 SAFETY EXPLORERS PROGRAM” FOR YOUTH WHO ARE AT LEAST 11 BUT NO
4 MORE THAN 18 YEARS OLD;
- 5 (II) PROVIDING DIRECT FUNDING FOR YOUTH WHO ARE AT LEAST 14 BUT NO MORE
6 THAN 18 YEARS OLD AND WHO ARE IN THE PUBLIC SAFETY EXPLORERS
7 PROGRAM TO WORK PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIPS IN A BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC
8 SAFETY AGENCY;
- 9 (III) PROVIDING DIRECT FUNDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF 100 PUBLIC SAFETY
10 CADET POSITIONS FOR YOUNG ADULTS WHO ARE AT LEAST 18 BUT NO MORE
11 THAN 21 YEARS OLD;
- 12 (IV) PROVIDING DIRECT FUNDING FOR THE STAFFING OF 25 UNIFORM PERSONNEL TO
13 PARTICIPATE IN A 2-YEAR “EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-FIREFIGHTER
14 APPRENTICE” PROGRAM THAT SHALL RUN CONSECUTIVELY WITH A
15 CANDIDATE’S COMPLETION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT’S CAREER TRACK OF
16 THE “PUBLIC SAFETY CADET” PROGRAM;
- 17 (V) PROVIDING FUNDING TO PUBLICIZE THE “PUBLIC SAFETY APPRENTICESHIP”
18 PROGRAM; AND
- 19 (VI) PROVIDING FUNDING FOR AN APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF DEDICATED
20 PERSONNEL FROM BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES TO MANAGE ALL
21 ASPECTS OF THE “PUBLIC SAFETY APPRENTICESHIP” PROGRAM.

22 (B) *REVENUE SOURCES.*

23 THE FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL CONSIST OF:

- 24 (1) A MANDATORY ANNUAL APPROPRIATION IN THE ORDINANCE OF ESTIMATES OF AN
25 AMOUNT EQUAL TO AT LEAST 1.5% OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED FOR THE
26 BALTIMORE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND
- 27 (2) A MANDATORY ANNUAL APPROPRIATION IN THE ORDINANCE OF ESTIMATES OF AN
28 AMOUNT EQUAL TO AT LEAST 1.5% OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED FOR THE
29 BALTIMORE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT.

30 (C) *CONTINUING NATURE OF FUND.*

31 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THE CHARTER, UNSPENT PORTIONS OF THE
32 FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION:

- 33 (1) REMAIN IN THE FUND, TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THEIR ORDAINED PURPOSES;
- 34 (2) DO NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL REVENUES OF THE CITY; AND
- 35 (3) THEIR APPROPRIATIONS DO NOT LAPSE.

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1 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this proposed amendment to the City
2 Charter be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of Baltimore City, for adoption or rejection,
3 in accordance with Article XI-A, § 5 of the Maryland Constitution, in the form specified by the
4 City Solicitor.