

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 05-0105R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Conaway, D’Adamo, Young, Harris, Kraft, Clarke,
Rawlings Blake, Mitchell, Holton, Branch, Welch, Reisinger, Curran, President Dixon,
Councilmember Spector

At the request of: Rosa Parks December 1 Anniversary Nationwide “Day of Absence”
Address: c/o Sharon Ceci & Eric Easton, Baltimore Citywide Coordinating Committee
426 East 31st Street, Baltimore Maryland 21218
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Introduced and read first time: November 7, 2005

Assigned to: Education, Housing, Health, and Human Services Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Adopted: November 21, 2005

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

**1 Proclaiming 2005 as Rosa Parks Year in Baltimore City
2 and Celebrating the December 1 Anniversary Nationwide “Day of Absence Action”**

3 FOR the purpose of proclaiming 2005 as Rosa Parks Year in Baltimore City and joining the more
4 than 1,000 national and local organizations sponsoring the Rosa Parks nationwide “Day of
5 Absence Action” in encouraging all public and private businesses and educational
6 institutions located in Baltimore City on December 1, 2005, to either close or allow their
7 workers or attendees time off to attend Rosa Parks Commemoration events taking place
8 during the normal business hours without sanctions.

9 **WHEREAS**, Rosa Louise McCauley was born February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama to
10 James McCauley, a carpenter, and Leona McCauley, a school teacher; and

11 **WHEREAS**, At the age of 11 she enrolled in the Montgomery Industrial School for Girls and
12 later at the Alabama State Teachers College and at 20 married Raymond Parks, a barber; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Parks, on December 1,1955, refused to give up her bus seat to a white
14 passenger in Montgomery, Alabama, resulting in her arrest; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Parks’ defiance triggered the famous Montgomery Bus Boycott and earned
16 her the title of Mother of the Civil Rights Movement; and

17 **WHEREAS**, The 382-day boycott introduced the world to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King,
18 Jr., who was President of the Montgomery Improvement Association and the Montgomery Bus
19 Boycott spokesperson; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The Federal District Court, on June 4, 1956, ruled bus segregation
21 unconstitutional; and

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

1 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Parks and her husband, Raymond moved to Detroit in 1957, where Mrs.
2 Parks served on the staff of United States Representative John Conyers; and

3 **WHEREAS**, The Southern Christian Leadership Council later established an annual Rosa
4 Parks Freedom Award in her honor; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Parks founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development
6 to offer guidance to young African Americans; and

7 **WHEREAS**, President Clinton presented Mrs. Parks with the Congressional Medal of
8 Freedom in 1995; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Mrs Parks spend her last years in Detroit, where she died on October 24, 2005, at
10 the age of 92.

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That this
12 Body proclaims 2005 as Rosa Parks Year in Baltimore City and joins the more than 1,000
13 national and local organizations sponsoring the Rosa Parks nationwide “Day of Absence Action”
14 in encouraging all public and private businesses and educational institutions located in Baltimore
15 City on December 1, 2005, to either close or allow their workers or attendees time off to attend
16 Rosa Parks Commemoration events taking place during the normal business hours without
17 sanctions.

18 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
19 family of Rosa Parks, the Baltimore City Coordinating Committee of the December 1
20 Anniversary Nationwide “Day of Absence”, the Labor Commissioner, and the Mayor’s
21 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.