

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 25-0028R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Parker

Cosponsored by: President Cohen and Councilmembers Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Gray,  
Bullock, Porter, Blanchard, Jones, and Ramos

Introduced and adopted: June 16, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Honoring World Refugee Day**

FOR the purpose of honoring World Refugee Day and celebrating the strength, courage, and contributions of Baltimoreans who have escaped conflict or persecution and have chosen to make Baltimore their home.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations has designated June 20 to be recognized as World Refugee Day.

**WHEREAS**, more than 120 million people, including 43.4 million refugees and 6.9 million asylum seekers, have been displaced from their homes, more than any time in recorded history, and nearly double the number recorded in 2019.

**WHEREAS**, millions of refugees – regardless of faith or country of origin – are making life and death decisions to flee their homes because they are unable to access shelter, health care, education, or protection from violence.

**WHEREAS**, many refugees are unable to flee to neighboring countries because these countries have either closed their borders to new arrivals or violence persists there as well.

**WHEREAS**, resettlement to the United States is available only to those who demonstrate the greatest and most immediate need for protection – such as children traveling alone, female-headed households, victims of torture, persons living with disabilities, and members of the LGBTI community – and takes place only after these eligible refugees undergo a rigorous selection, security vetting, and medical screening process.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Baltimore is home to a diverse population of refugees and immigrants, who add to the economic strength and cultural richness of our community.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore City stands as a beacon of freedom and opportunity to all, and the City's legacy as such depends on ensuring that all residents feel welcomed and valued to plant roots and achieve prosperity.

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

## **Council Bill 25-0028R**

1       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that the  
2 Baltimore City Council honors World Refugee Day and celebrates the strength, courage, and  
3 contributions of Baltimoreans who have escaped conflict or persecution and have chosen to make  
4 Baltimore their home.

5       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Director of the  
6 Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.