

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 21-0065R  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Dorsey, Ramos, Porter, Bullock, Torrence, Cohen  
Introduced and read first time: October 4, 2021  
Assigned to: Economic and Community Development Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Baltimore Development Corporation, City Administrator, Office of the Comptroller

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Investigative Hearing - Vacant Residential Properties -**  
3 **Requirement for Homeowners Insurance**

4 FOR the purpose of inviting the Director of the Department of Housing and Community  
5 Development, the City Administrator, the City Solicitor, the Maryland Insurance  
6 Commissioner, the Baltimore City Comptroller, and the President and CEO of the Baltimore  
7 Development Corporation to testify regarding requiring owners of vacant residential  
8 properties to obtain homeowners insurance.

9 **Recitals**

10 **WHEREAS**, privately-owned, vacant residential properties that have been left in a state of  
11 disrepair or have not been properly maintained are a continuing problem in Baltimore City;

12 **WHEREAS**, many of these properties are located in populated communities and are adjacent  
13 to other commercial and residential properties;

14 **WHEREAS**, long-term disrepair or neglect of a vacant residential property may cause physical  
15 injury to those in the community or damage to adjacent properties; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the citizens and property owners of Baltimore City should have recourse if a  
17 person's neglect of a vacant property leads to physical injury or property damage, and filing a  
18 claim against a property owner's homeowners insurance could provide such recourse.

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the City  
20 Council invites the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the  
21 City Administrator, the City Solicitor, the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, the Baltimore City  
22 Comptroller, and the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation to testify  
23 regarding requiring owners of vacant residential properties to obtain homeowners insurance.

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

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1       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
2 Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the City Administrator,  
3 the City Solicitor, the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, the Baltimore City Comptroller, the  
4 President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, and the Mayor’s Legislative  
5 Liaison to the City Council.