CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 11-0247R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Curran, Henry, Stokes, Kraft, Cole, Holton, Middleton, Spector, Conaway, Welch, Branch, Clarke, Reisinger, President Young

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2011

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

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

Comptroller, Department of Real Estate

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

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Informational Hearing – Real Property Account – Disposition of City Owned Property

For the purpose of requesting the Comptroller and the Director of Finance to report to the City Council on the status of the Real Property Account; the amount of money deposited in the account in the last two fiscal years; the amount of money appropriated from the account in the same time period, and the extent to which the account is self-sustaining or requires contributions from the General Fund or other revenue sources; and requesting the City Solicitor to define possible exceptions to the provisions of Article 5, Section 6 of the Baltimore City Charter.

11 Recitals

The Baltimore City Charter directs the Comptroller to credit to the Mayor and City Council Real Property Account the proceeds from the sale by the City of any real or leasehold property or interest in such property. Proceeds from the sales are to be used only for the purchase of land, the purchase or construction of buildings, other construction work and projects, and to carry out the industrial and economic development powers of the Mayor and City Council.

The express intent of the provisions of the Article are to limit the use of such moneys for the purposes specifically mentioned and to prohibit their use for the general operating expenses of the City. The Comptroller is to report annually to the City Council on "the state of the account, with the particulars as to sources of receipts". Funds in this account can be used for other purposes only if specifically authorized by ordinance.

Bills before the City Council authorizing the disposition of surplus City property, such as the sale of the Inn at Government House at 1125 North Calvert Street, a property appraised for \$1 million and sold for \$725,000, generate renewed public and private interest in the activities of the Real Property Account.

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Comptroller and the Director of Finance are requested to report to the City Council on the status of the Real Property Account; the amount of money deposited in the account in the last two fiscal years; the amount of money appropriated from the account in the same time period, and the extent

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1	to which the account is self-sustaining or requires contributions from the General Fund or other
2	revenue sources; and requesting the City Solicitor to define possible exceptions to the provisions
3	of Article 5, Section 6 of the Baltimore City Charter.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Comptroller, the Director of Finance, the City Solicitor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.