

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 06-0199R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Holton, Harris, D'Adamo, Young, Curran, Kraft, Clarke,  
Reisinger, Conaway, Welch, President Dixon, Councilmembers Rawlings Blake, Mitchell  
Introduced and adopted: July 10, 2006

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Baltimore City Celebration of National Summer Learning Day – July 13, 2006**

FOR the purpose of celebrating National Summer Learning Day, recognizing the contributions of the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University and the Verizon Foundation to effective summer learning initiatives for Baltimore City young people, congratulating the recipients of the 2006 Excellence in Summer Learning Award, and reminding parents and children of the vital importance of participating in summer activities to avoid learning losses during the summer months.

**Recitals**

The Center for Summer Learning offers the following facts about summer learning:

- **All young people experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer.** Research shows that students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of summer vacation.
- **On average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills over the summer months.** Studies reveal that the greatest areas of summer loss for all students, regardless of socio-economic status, are in factual or procedural knowledge.
- **Low-income children and youth experience greater summer learning losses than their higher income peers.** On average, middle-income students experience slight gains in reading performance over the summer months. Low-income students experience an average summer learning loss in reading achievement of over 2 months.
- **Summer learning loss contributes to the achievement gap in reading performance between lower and higher income children and youth.** Research demonstrates that while student achievement for both middle and lower-income students improves at similar rates during the school year, low-income students experience cumulative summer learning losses over the elementary school grades.

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

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- 1       • **Large numbers of students who qualify for federally subsidized meals do not**  
2       **have the same level of access to nutritious meals during the summer as they do**  
3       **during the school year.** Only 1 in 5 of the 15.3 million children who receive free or  
4       reduced priced school lunches on a typical day during the regular school year  
5       participates in federal nutrition programs during the summer.
  
- 6       • **Studies show that out-of-school time is a dangerous time for unsupervised**  
7       **children and teens.** Young people who are unsupervised during out-of-school time  
8       are more likely to use alcohol, drugs, tobacco; engage in criminal and other high-risk  
9       behaviors; receive poor grades; and drop out of school than those who have the  
10      opportunity to benefit from constructive activities supervised by responsible adults.

11       The Center reports that preliminary findings from a 3-year study of the Teach Baltimore  
12      Summer Academy suggest that a multi-year summer intervention using collegiate volunteers as  
13      instructors can counteract these cumulative effects of summer loss.

14       With the support of the Verizon Foundation, the Center brings attention to National Summer  
15      Learning Day as a time for communities to celebrate the importance of high-quality summer  
16      learning opportunities, in part, by offering 10 local summer program providers \$1,500 each to  
17      support their Summer Learning Day events. These funds must be used to support the purchase  
18      of books, materials, and supplies appropriate to learning for children in conjunction with  
19      Summer Learning Day and will be accompanied by training and an orientation about Learning  
20      Day.

21       This year Senator Barbara Mikulski and Senator Barack Obama are hosting the Washington  
22      Capital celebration of National Summer Learning Day, at which Senator Barack Obama and Ron  
23      Fairchild, Executive Director, Center for Summer Learning, are featured speakers and recipients  
24      of the BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life), Harlem RBI, Higher Achievement and  
25      Trailblazers 2006 Excellence in Summer Learning Award.

26       Here, where the overall graduation rate was 54% in 2003 – 39% for males – it is vital that the  
27      importance of summer learning be understood, and everyone is encouraged to join the wide array  
28      of public agencies, non-profit organizations, schools, universities, museums, libraries, and  
29      summer camps across the country in the annual celebration of Summer Learning Day and the  
30      rededication to learning each day of the year, including the lazy, hazy days of summer in our  
31      great City of Baltimore.

32       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this  
33      Body celebrates National Summer Learning Day in Baltimore City, recognizes the contributions  
34      of the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University and the Verizon Foundation to  
35      effective summer learning initiatives for Baltimore City young people, congratulates the  
36      recipients of the 2006 Excellence in Summer Learning Award, and reminds parents and children  
37      of the vital importance of participating in summer activities to avoid learning losses during the  
38      summer months.

39       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
40      Honorable Barbara Mikulski, the Honorable Barack Obama, the Honorable Members of the  
41      Maryland Congressional Delegation, the Honorable Members of the Baltimore City Delegation  
42      to the Maryland General Assembly, the Executive Director of Center for Summer Learning,  
43      Johns Hopkins University, the President of the Verizon Foundation, the Acting CEO of the  
44      Baltimore City Public School System, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.