

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0013R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Bullock
Cosponsored by: President Cohen and Councilmembers Parker, Dorsey, Conway, Middleton,
Torrence, Gray, Porter, Jones, Glover, Ramos, McCray, and Blanchard
Introduced and adopted: March 10, 2025

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Request for State Action – Fully Fund the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future

FOR the purpose of calling on the Maryland General Assembly to reject House Bill 504/Senate Bill 429, the “Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act”, as introduced and to restore funding to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, specifically to the Concentration of Poverty Grant Program and to fund increased teacher collaborative planning time.

Recitals

WHEREAS, the Maryland Department of Legislative Services estimates that the budget cuts proposed in HB504/SB429 would cause Baltimore City Public Schools to face a \$514,714 reduction in State funding over the 5 years between Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2030.

WHEREAS, the State Blueprint Concentration of Poverty Grant Program is administered in the form of annual personnel and per-pupil personnel grants to support the establishment of community schools.

WHEREAS, Baltimore City’s place-based, whole-child Community Schools Strategy is primarily funded by the State Concentration of Poverty Grant Program.

WHEREAS, the Baltimore City Public School System has leveraged Concentration of Poverty grants to contribute to progress in students’ math and literacy performance; decreased chronic absenteeism; increased access to fine arts; increased gifted learning, advanced learning, and Advanced Placement offerings; and increased enrollment.

WHEREAS, the proposed budget cuts to the Blueprint’s allocation for increased teacher collaborative planning time would negatively impact the foundation, multilingual learner, and free-and-reduced-priced meals (compensatory) amounts of the education funding formula, resulting in less overall funding to support students with complex needs.

WHEREAS, sustaining the progress and network of supports made possible by the promises of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future is a priority of the Baltimore City Council.

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

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1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the City
2 Council calls on the Maryland General Assembly to reject House Bill 504/Senate Bill 429, the
3 “Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act”, as introduced and to restore funding to the
4 Blueprint for Maryland's Future, specifically to the Concentration of Poverty Grant Program and
5 to fund increased teacher collaborative planning time.

6 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the State Senate
7 President, the State Speaker of the House of Delegates, the Governor, the Baltimore City
8 Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly, the CEO of Baltimore City Schools, the Chair
9 and members of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, and the Mayor’s
10 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.