

Council Bill 15-0244R

1 stemming from heroin. For decades, heroin and, more recently, other
2 opioids like prescription narcotics, have disrupted the lives of too many of
3 our residents and damaged our communities. While we have made progress
4 in recent years, we continue to face an urgent public health challenge.... all
5 of us are affected [by opioid abuse]. Abuse of these drugs generates crime,
6 strains our healthcare system and harms the quality of life for residents in
7 many communities. In short, heroin and opioid abuse threatens all aspects
8 of Baltimore's future.”

9 This report is intended to serve as the City's blueprint for a stepped up and more effective
10 response to the addiction epidemic. An estimated \$20 million is needed over three years to
11 accomplish its goals. Baltimore hopes to involve private partners, as well as the state and federal
12 government, to assist with funding for the Task Force recommendations.

13 Implementing all of the Task Force's recommendations will require will and commitment
14 from all levels of government and our partners in the private sector. The City Council will have
15 an important role to play in assisting and enabling these efforts, and therefore must be kept fully
16 informed of the recommendations and the City's progress in implementing them.

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
18 Council calls on the Health Commissioner and the Co-Chairs of the Mayor's Heroin Treatment
19 and Prevention Task Force to appear before it to report on the findings and recommendations of
20 the Heroin Treatment and Prevention Task Force.

21 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
22 Health Commissioner, the Chief Executive Officer of Bon Secours Baltimore Health System, the
23 President and Chief Executive Officer of Behavioral Health System Baltimore, and the Mayor's
24 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.