

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 06-0151R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, Curran, Kraft, D'Adamo, Holton, Young, Harris,  
Mitchell, Welch, Conaway

Introduced and read first time: March 6, 2006

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Health Department

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **City Council Support for Board of Estimates' Funding to**  
3 **Promote Continued Progress in Achieving Highest Standards in**  
4 **the Protection, Care, and Handling of Baltimore City's Domestic and Wildlife Animals**

5 FOR the purpose of urging the Board of Estimates to provide the necessary budget support to  
6 promote the continued progress of Baltimore City's Animal Shelter and Animal Control  
7 operations and capital needs for fiscal year 2007.

8 **WHEREAS**, In the past year, Baltimore City's Animal Shelter, 301 Stockholm Street, has  
9 tripled the adoption rate and diminished the euthanasia rate of animals in its care, as compared to  
10 the previous year as well as to prior annual rates.

11 **WHEREAS**, In that same one-year period, the agency has rescued more than 300 abandoned,  
12 neglected, and injured dogs, cats, and wildlife animals *a month* and has engaged scores of animal  
13 welfare volunteers in assisting with every aspect of its operations.

14 **WHEREAS**, To promote and ensure successful adoptions and a healthy shelter environment,  
15 the City of Baltimore has already provided the funds to provide vaccine for every animal  
16 entering its Animal Shelter in this current fiscal year 2006 and requires the funding to continue  
17 this practice in 2007.

18 **WHEREAS**, One essential new budget item is the addition of a full-time veterinarian to the  
19 Animal Control and Shelter staff so as to evaluate, document, and testify in court to animal  
20 abuse, cruelty, and neglect, a function that volunteer veterinarians cannot afford to perform, and  
21 so as to administer medications for Shelter animals as well as to perform in-house spay /  
22 neutering of all Shelter resident animals.

23 **WHEREAS**, Another essential new budget item is the upgrading of Animal Control and  
24 Animal Shelter computer software and data input capacity so as to provide on-street and 24-hour  
25 computer access to animal licensing / multi-animal permit information and so as to track Shelter  
26 animals from admission through adoption within the Shelter.

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

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1       **WHEREAS**, The capacity of Animal Control / the Animal Shelter to directly issue annual  
2 licenses and multi-animal permits and the addition of desperately-needed clerical and  
3 enforcement personnel to handle this task will permit the agency to pursue increased  
4 enforcement of licensure and increased City revenues.

5       **WHEREAS**, Increased licensure revenues are thereby assured for an agency now too short-  
6 staffed and too under-“tech”-ed to follow-up on citations for lack of licensure and rabies shots.

7       **WHEREAS**, The increased revenues of strict licensure enforcement will more than support the  
8 increased costs of additional enforcement officers and computer accessibility.

9       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the  
10 Baltimore City Council does hereby urge the Baltimore Board of Estimates to increase the  
11 FY2007 budget of Animal Control / the Animal Shelter to fund the need for additional animal  
12 enforcement officers, for one new environmental sanitarian, for two new data entry personnel  
13 and for the in-house computer software required to track animal licensure as well as every  
14 animal’s history after intake into the City’s Animal Shelter.

15       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That in FY 2007, all excess licensure fees over projected  
16 estimates be directed for further enhancements to Baltimore City’s Animal Control and Shelter  
17 operations.

18       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That sufficient capital funds be provided in FY 2007 for  
19 improved plumbing, air handlers and gate improvements to benefit Baltimore City’s Animal  
20 Shelter and the animals who live there.