

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0043R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Bullock

Cosponsored by: Councilmembers Middleton, Gray, Blanchard, Jones, Ramos, Parker, Conway, Torrence, Porter, and Glover, and President Cohen

Introduced and read first time: December 15, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Youth, and Older Adults Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore City Public Schools

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Process of Permanent School Closures**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting representatives of Baltimore City Public Schools and the Baltimore
4 City Board of School Commissioners to brief the City Council on the process by which a
5 school in the City is permanently closed.

6 **Recitals**

7 Baltimore’s schools are a core part of its identity. In addition to teaching useful knowledge
8 and skills, schools are often a central location for a community to congregate for civic and
9 cultural events. Many Baltimoreans closely identify with where they went to school, and the
10 social bonds created among classmates boost community pride and engagement.

11 However, Baltimore City Public Schools may on occasion see fit for a school to be closed
12 permanently. For example, in November 2025, Baltimore City Public Schools announced that
13 the charter school New Song Academy in Sandtown-Winchester would be closing permanently,
14 citing maintenance issues with the building and financial concerns with the managing nonprofit.

15 The Baltimore City Council wishes to better understand the process by which a school in the
16 City is permanently closed, including what criteria are used to determine that permanent closure
17 is the best option for a school and how public feedback and community impact analysis are used
18 in the process.

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the City
20 Council invites representatives of Baltimore City Public Schools and the Baltimore City Board of
21 School Commissioners to brief the City Council on the process by which a school in the City is
22 permanently closed.

23 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Chief
24 Executive Officer of Baltimore City Public Schools, the Chair of the Baltimore City Board of
25 School Commissioners, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to City Council.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.