

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 20-0194R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Scott, Councilmembers Burnett, Dorsey, Bullock, Henry, Pinkett,
Clarke, Middleton, Cohen, Reisinger, Sneed, Schleifer

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2020

Assigned to: Health Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Health Department, Mayor's Office of Emergency
Management, Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing - Baltimore's Strategic Response to the Wuhan Coronavirus**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Health Department, the
4 Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, the Baltimore Police Department, the Baltimore
5 City Fire Department, and the Baltimore City Department of Finance to brief the City
6 Council on Baltimore's strategic response to the Wuhan coronavirus.

7 **Recitals**

8 Recently, a new strain of coronavirus was detected in thousands of people worldwide,
9 prompting the World Health Organization to declare a "public health emergency of international
10 concern." Similarly, the United States federal government has declared the coronavirus outbreak
11 a public health emergency. This new strain of coronavirus, also referred to as 2019-nCoV, is a
12 strain that has not been previously found in humans and has led to nearly 500 deaths around the
13 world as of last week.

14 Most people who were first diagnosed with this infection reported exposure to a large
15 seafood and live animal market in Wuhan, China. Recently, people with this infection did not
16 report contact with this market. Thus, person-to-person spread is occurring, and recently at least
17 one individual has been diagnosed in Maryland.

18 The risk of a Baltimorean contracting coronavirus is generally low – contracting the flu
19 remains a larger threat. However, the Baltimore City Council, on behalf of our constituents, is
20 seeking to assess Baltimore's preparedness both now and in the future should the coronavirus fail
21 to be contained or cured. Specifically, the Council is interested in the level of coordination that
22 is in place with our state and federal partners as well as the City's fiscal readiness for any public
23 health catastrophe.

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the
25 Council invites representatives from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Mayor's Office
26 of Emergency Management, the Baltimore Police Department, the Baltimore City Fire
27 Department, and the Baltimore City Department of Finance to brief the City Council on
28 Baltimore's strategic response to the Wuhan coronavirus.

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

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1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
2 Baltimore City Commissioner of Health, the Baltimore City Police Commissioner, the Chief of
3 the Baltimore City Fire Department, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Emergency
4 Management, the Director of Finance, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the Baltimore City
5 Council.