CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 09-0097R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, D'Adamo, Middleton, Henry, Curran, Spector, Branch, Conaway, Kraft, Young, Holton, Welch, Reisinger

At the request of: The Community Law Center, c/o Robert J. Strupp, Director of Research and Policy

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Introduced and adopted: January 12, 2009

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

In Support of a Moratorium on Federal Foreclosures 1 FOR the purpose of requesting that the Honorable Members of the Baltimore City Delegation to 2 the 111th United States Congress support legislation that imposes a mandatory moratorium on 3 the foreclosures of certain federally related mortgage loans secured by residential property 4 located in Baltimore City. 5 Recitals 6 The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development reported that, in the 7 third quarter of 2008, foreclosure proceedings were filed on 878 residences in Baltimore City, 8 and Realty Trac, a leading source for foreclosure data, reported 278 foreclosures in Baltimore 9 City for the month of November 2008. 10 In the third quarter of 2008, Baltimore City represented over 11% of all Maryland 11 foreclosures. RealtyTrac projects foreclosures to continue at very high levels in 2009. And, 12 while foreclosures occur throughout the City, the neighborhoods most impacted are among the 13 most economically disadvantaged. 14 Although a "melt-down" of the nation's economy, in 2008, resulted in the United States 15 Congress authorizing the use of \$700 billion in federal funds ostensibly to help prevent 16 foreclosures, little of this money has been shown to reach homeowners facing foreclosure. 17 Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the 18 Baltimore City Council recommends that the United States Congress take immediate action to 19 enact legislation imposing a moratorium on foreclosures and mandating that mortgage services 20 and mortgage holders undertake good faith loan modification efforts for all eligible homeowners. 21 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the 22 Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski, the Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin, the Honorable Elijah 23 Cummings, the Honorable John P. Sarbanes, the Honorable C.A. Dutch Ruppersburger, the 24 Honorable Frank M. Kratovil, Jr., the Honorable Steny H. Hoyer, the Honorable Donna F. 25 Edwards, the Honorable Roscoe G. Bartlett, the Honorable Chris Van Hollen, the Director of the 26 Mayor's Office of Government Relations, the Commissioner of Housing and Community 27 Development, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council. 28