

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 05-0086R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Dixon, Councilmembers D’Adamo, Kraft, Young, Branch, Spector,
Conaway, Welch, Reisinger, Mitchell, Curran, Rawlings Blake, Holton, Harris
Introduced and adopted: September 19, 2005

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

BALTIMORE*RESPONDS* II - Hurricane Katrina

1
2 FOR the purpose of showing support for the campaign entitled “**BALTIMORE*RESPONDS* to**
3 **Hurricane Katrina**,” an effort to encourage Baltimore City residents and area businesses to
4 donate funds to the Baltimore Community Foundation, Associated Black Charities, or any of
5 a number of relief agencies who are currently devoting their time and energy to helping those
6 in need.

7 **Recitals**

8 As citizens of Baltimore and as Americans, we've all been touched in different ways by the
9 unprecedented damage and loss of life caused by Hurricane Katrina. The somber news coming
10 out of the Gulf states in the aftermath of the storm interrupted our lives with questions.
11 Questions about what we hold dear and about nature's indiscriminate way. Questions about
12 coping and surviving and about suddenly uncertain futures. And as we questioned, we responded
13 individually, as families, as groups, and as a country.

14 Now we respond as a city.

15 In January 2005, Council President Dixon launched the **BALTIMORE*RESPONDS*** campaign in
16 response to the Dec. 26, 2004 tsunami in South Asia. **BALTIMORE*RESPONDS*** was created to
17 provide a way for city residents to show our concern for members of our human family a world
18 away—and to demonstrate our civic pride as citizens of Baltimore. Over \$33,000 was raised,
19 and funds were administered by Baltimore Community Foundation and distributed equally at the
20 close of the campaign to relief agencies headquartered in Baltimore for use in the affected areas.

21 Now a similar natural disaster has struck here at home, inundating our own shores and
22 uprooting thousands of Americans from their homes and their livelihoods, and, in many cases,
23 leaving survivors with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Rebuilding will be a long-term
24 process and require a long-term commitment. Hurricane Katrina left unprecedented destruction
25 and tremendous loss of life in her wake, perhaps transforming forever the Gulf states.

26 Baltimore City and Howard County responded immediately and generously with donations
27 and by sending employees to the southern cities in dire need of assistance. We congratulate the
28 Baltimore City and Howard County employees who assisted their counterparts with the difficult

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

1 tasks of restoring the areas' infrastructures and of helping to better the lives of their neighbors.
2 Unfortunately, relief efforts will need to continue for years to come, and we ask that everyone
3 continue to give financially and generously.

4 Maryland has secured a declaration of emergency from the White House to assist those in
5 desperate need of help to holistically put their lives back together. Baltimore stands ready to
6 welcome those who have a need to relocate, as well as offer assistance to the 2,400 plus who
7 have already made their way to our state. Local agencies, public schools, colleges and other
8 entities have taken on the spirit of giving and are offering their support. We urge them to
9 continue their generosity.

10 At moments like these, our every instinct is to help our neighbor in time of need, to harness
11 our better angels, and to lend a helping hand to our fellow Americans in Louisiana and
12 Mississippi. There will be a **BALTIMORESPONDS** blood drive held on Bea Gaddy Day, October
13 1, 2005 at Mondawmin Mall, in order to help keep a safe blood supply available and ready.

14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this Body
15 supports the campaign entitled "**BALTIMORESPONDS** to Hurricane Katrina," an effort to
16 encourage Baltimore City residents and area businesses to donate funds to the Baltimore
17 Community Foundation, Associated Black Charities, or any of a number of relief agencies who
18 are currently devoting their time and energy to helping those in need.

19 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
20 Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the Council, the Mayor of New Orleans, and the County
21 Executive of Howard County.