

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 09-0308
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Curran, President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Kraft,
Young, Cole, Henry, D'Adamo, Branch, Holton, Clarke, Welch, Middleton, Conaway,
Reisinger
Introduced and read first time: March 23, 2009

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **To Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein – A Proud Farewell**

3 FOR the purpose of congratulating Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, Baltimore City Health
4 Commissioner, on his appointment as Principal Deputy Commissioner of the Food and Drug
5 Administration; expressing appreciation for his noteworthy contributions to the health and
6 welfare of residents of Baltimore City; and wishing him all the best in his new role as a
7 steward of well being to the citizens of the entire United States; and providing for a special
8 effective date.

9 **Recitals**

10 Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, appointed Commissioner of Health in 2005 and reappointed in
11 2008, has valiantly safeguarded and promoted the health of Baltimore's citizens, leading efforts
12 to improve the oversight of children's cough and cold medications, eliminating lead hazard from
13 children's jewelry, and increasing immunization of healthcare workers.

14 In moving to the FDA, Dr. Sharfstein will share with the entire nation the creative tenacity
15 that brought to Baltimore City the first absolute no-smoking ban that served as the impetus for a
16 state-wide prohibition; an award-winning program to ensure Americans with disabilities access
17 to prescription drugs; progressive buprenorphine treatment for the city's recalcitrant substance
18 abuse population; and an innovative and humane TNR (trap-neuter-release) program to stabilize
19 the feral cat population.

20 Citizens and professional colleagues alike share the sentiments of the Mayor who said of our
21 departing Commissioner: "This is truly bitter sweet where we are equal parts saddened and
22 excited for Dr. Sharfstein. As some may view this as a loss for Baltimore, I see this as a gain for
23 the nation. We are proud that one of Baltimore's own has an opportunity to not only make
24 Baltimore a healthier city but the United States a healthier nation as well."

25 And echo, too, those of the President of the Baltimore City Council: "The simple truth is that
26 Dr. Joshua Sharfstein has done a superb job at Baltimore's Health Commissioner. During his
27 tenure he has created and implemented new innovative health programs and initiatives that have
28 garnered well-deserved national recognition. While the City Council wishes Dr. Sharfstein the
29 best as he moves on to work for President Barack Obama, we are deeply saddened that Baltimore

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

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1 is losing such a great, talented public health leader. However, we take comfort in knowing that
2 Dr. Sharfstein will continue his innovative work in public service, and he will continue working
3 to protect the public health of the citizens of Baltimore and the nation.”

4 *Josh, Baltimore thanks you and wishes you the very best!*

5 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
6 this Body hereby congratulates Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, Baltimore City Health Commissioner,
7 on his appointment as Principal Deputy Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration;
8 expresses appreciation for his noteworthy contributions to the health and welfare of residents of
9 Baltimore City; and wishes him all the best in his new role as a steward of well being to the
10 citizens of the entire United States.

11 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be presented to
12 Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein.

13 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution takes effect on date it is
14 enacted.