

CITY OF BALTIMORE
RESOLUTION _____
Council Bill 09-0408

Introduced by: Councilmembers Holton, D’Adamo, Kraft, Cole, Middleton, Henry, Clarke,
Branch, Welch, Spector, Conaway, Curran
Introduced and read first time: October 5, 2009
Read second time: October 5, 2009

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CONCERNING

In Support of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

FOR the purpose of celebrating 25 years of awareness, education, and empowerment given the nation by the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month organization, supporting the efforts of the Baltimore City Health Department to combat the disease, and encouraging Baltimore City residents to increase their knowledge concerning the causes, prevention, and treatment of breast cancer; and providing for a special effective date.

Recitals

In 2009, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM), a partnership of national public services organizations, professional medical associations, and government agencies working together to promote breast cancer awareness, share information on the disease, and provide greater access to screening services, celebrates its 25th anniversary.

The organization has been in the forefront of promoting awareness of breast cancer issues and has evolved along with the national dialogue on breast cancer, but its membership recognizes that despite the great strides made in breast cancer awareness and treatment, there remains much to be accomplished.

While October is recognized as National Breast Cancer Awareness month, NBCAM and healthcare professionals encourage women to seek empowerment throughout the year through education, regular self-breast examination, regular visits and annual mammograms, adhering to prescribed treatment, and knowing the facts about recurrence.

In kicking-off Baltimore City’s celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Mayor, joined by the Maryland Affiliate of Susan G. Komen For The Cure, announced several initiatives, including a state-wide substantive breast cancer awareness action plan, a symbolic pink lighting of the City Hall dome, and the display of a pink ribbon on the War Memorial Plaza.

This year’s Komen Maryland Community Profile is a 10-month study to evaluate the state of breast cancer in their service area, which includes all of Maryland except for Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties. The profile revealed that Maryland is ranked fifth in the nation for cancer death rates. And while women in Maryland are not diagnosed with the disease any more frequently than the national average, they are dying from breast cancer at higher rates.

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

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1 This year alone an estimated 810 women in Maryland will die from death cancer. Baltimore
2 City ranks third in the State for breast cancer mortality rates among women of all ages and races.
3 In the City a total average of 163 women die of breast cancer each year.

4 African American women in the State and City do not have as high an incidence of breast
5 cancer as white women, but have a higher death rate because of delay in diagnosis and treatment.
6 Komen Maryland has developed an action plan to address hard-hit areas to increase breast cancer
7 awareness and to stress the importance of early detection and screening in African American
8 communities.

9 As stated by the Mayor: "The cancer rates affecting women in Baltimore is unacceptable.
10 These women are our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, our aunts, our friends, our neighbors,
11 and our co-workers. They are dying of a disease that can be treated effectively if detected early
12 enough. We must do everything in our power to improve our education, outreach, and
13 prevention to save lives."

14 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
15 this Body celebrates the 25 years of awareness, education, and empowerment given the nation by
16 the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month organization, supports the efforts of the Baltimore
17 City Health Department to combat the disease, and encourages Baltimore City residents to
18 increase their knowledge concerning the causes, prevention, and treatment of breast cancer; and
19 providing for a special effective date.

20 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the
21 Mayor, the Executive Director of Komen Maryland, the Baltimore City Health Commissioner,
22 and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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

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Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,
this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City