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**BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND YOUTH
COMMITTEE**

Mission Statement

The Committee on Education, Workforce and Youth (EWY) is responsible for creating opportunities for our young people, ensuring economic opportunity and prosperity for Baltimore's workforce, and supporting our most vulnerable neighbors. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include public education, labor relations, workforce development, employment, public parks, recreation, and youth affairs. Issue areas include, but are not limited to: education, including adult education, higher education, workforce development, labor, senior affairs, veterans, childcare, accessibility and disability issues, recreation and parks, and historical landmarks.

**The Honorable Robert Stokes, Sr.
Chairman**

PUBLIC HEARING

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022
5:01 PM**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TO BE TELEVISED ON CHARM TV 25

Council Resolution #22-0111R

Informational Hearing – Addressing Youth Violence in Baltimore City

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BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Education, Workforce and Youth

Resolution: 22-0111R

Informational Hearing – Addressing Youth Violence in Baltimore City

Sponsor: Councilmember Stokes, et al

Introduced: June 13, 2022

Purpose:

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Police Commissioner; the State’s Attorney for Baltimore City; the Chief Academic Officer of the Baltimore City Public School System; the Deputy Commissioner of Youth Wellness and Community Health from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Chief of Police for the Baltimore City School Police; the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success; the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development; the Director of the Mayor’s Office of African-American Male Engagement, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Performance and Innovation; and interested members of the Baltimore City Youth Commission to come before the City Council to discuss the increase in youth violence across the city; and the risk factors that are driving these incidents.

Effective: On the date it is enacted.

Agency Reports

Law Department	<i>Favorable</i>
Baltimore City Health Department	<i>None as of this writing</i>
Police Department	<i>None as of this writing</i>
Baltimore City Public School System	<i>Presentation to be shown</i>
Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety & Engagement	<i>None as of this writing</i>
Baltimore City State’s Attorney’s Office	<i>None as of this writing</i>
Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success	<i>None as of this writing</i>
Mayor’s Office of Employment Development	<i>None as of this writing</i>
Mayor’s Office of Performance and Innovation	<i>Comments</i>

Analysis

Current Law

Baltimore City Code – Article 1, Subtitle 1-City Council, Section 1-6

§ 1-6. Agencies to provide legislative information.

It shall be the duty of the head of every City department or bureau established by the Baltimore City Charter or by ordinance to provide all technical materials, plats, drawings, and information that are requested by any member or the President of the City Council for the purpose of introducing legislation into the Council.

(City Code, 1976/83, art. 1, §6.) (Ord. 76-080.)

Background

On Thursday, August 25, 2022 several agencies and city partners will come before the committee to discuss the increase in youth violence across the city; and the risk factors that are driving these incidents.

Per the primary sponsor of the Resolution, “There may be some missed factors that are contributing to the increasing youth violence. We want to make sure agencies are talking to each other and discussing how they are addressing the matter.”

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: None

Information Source(s): Baltimore City Code, Council Resolution 22-0111R, and all agency reports received as of this writing.

Marguerite M. Currin

Analysis by: Marguerite M. Currin
Analysis Date: August 22, 2022

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

Council Resolution 22-0111R
Agency Reports

See attached

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
JAMES L. SHEA, CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

August 18, 2022

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 22-0111R – Informational Hearing – Addressing Youth
Violence in Baltimore City

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0111R for form and legal sufficiency. The bill is for the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Police Commissioner, the State’s Attorney for Baltimore City, the Chief Academic Officer of the Baltimore City Public School System, the Deputy Commissioner of Youth Wellness & Community Health from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Chief of Police for the Baltimore City School Police, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of African-American Male Engagement, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Performance and Innovation, and interested members of the Baltimore City Youth Commission to come before the City Council to discuss the increase in youth violence across the City and the risk factors that are driving these incidents.

The City Council has an inherent power to investigate “in furtherance of its legislative function.” 4 McQuillin Mun. Corp. § 13:7. The City Council may “exercise within the limits of Baltimore City all the power commonly known as the Police Power to the same extent as the State has or could exercise that power within the limits of Baltimore City,” and may “pass any ordinance, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter or the laws of the State, which it may deem proper in the exercise of any of the powers, either express or implied, enumerated in this Charter, as well as any ordinance as it may deem proper in maintaining the peace, good government, health and welfare of Baltimore City.” City Charter, Art. II, §§ (27), (47).

A resolution is an appropriate way for the City Council of Baltimore to conduct an informational hearing. *See, e.g., Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium*, 313 Md. 413, 428 (1988). Therefore, the Law Department approves this Resolution for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Hochstetler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeffrey Hochstetler
Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
D'Ereka Bolden, Assistant Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Special Solicitor



Office of Performance & Innovation

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Memorandum

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

From: Dan Hymowitz, Director, Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation

Subject: Council Bill 22-0111R - Informational Hearing - Addressing Youth Violence in Baltimore City

Date: August 15, 2022

The Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation (OPI) has reviewed Council Bill 22-0111R. We understand that this bill asks City agencies to appear before the City Council to discuss youth violence in Baltimore and efforts being made to address this. OPI is looking forward to participating in this hearing and to answering questions about this issue that the Council is seeking to discuss.

The bill specifically asks about YouthStat and metrics being discussed in YouthStat. YouthStat is a process that uses data and convenes stakeholders with the aim of improving outcomes for young people in Baltimore. YouthStat has previously included an examination of some metrics connected to young people and violence. Some of those metrics that have been reviewed in the past have included: data related to BPD-youth interactions including youth arrests; data related to actions taken by BPD after a young person was arrested (such as being released to a parent or guardian); numbers of young people referred to DJS; data related to actions taken by DJS (such as whether a young person was referred to the State's Attorney).

That said, YouthStat stakeholders have indicated that YouthStat going forward should focus on issues relevant to both City Schools and Baltimore City government and where there may be opportunities for further collaboration or problem solving, that go beyond youth violence. Some of these future topics that have been planned for include issues related to attendance and transportation.



Office of Performance & Innovation

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Issues of young people and violence are also consistently examined within PoliceStat. PoliceStat is held every two weeks and looks at different violence trends and the Baltimore Police Department's (BPD) strategies and operations to respond to violence.

As part of that ongoing and rigorous review of violence trends, OPI consistently analyzes whether there are trends related to the age of victims or those who have committed acts of violence. When there are trends and patterns involving young people, PoliceStat will feature extra analysis and discussion related to these issues. And while OPI is limited in the data that it has access to when it comes to young people and violence, PoliceStat is able to feature discussions about data trends that relate violence and young people and BPD's responses to those trends.

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 22-0111R
(First Reader)

Introduced by: Councilmember Stokes, Bullock, Porter, Middleton, Conway, Ramos, Costello, Glover, Cohen, Torrence

Introduced and read first time: June 13, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Baltimore City Health Department, Police Department, Baltimore City Public School System, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office, Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success, Mayor's Office of Employment Development, Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing - Addressing Youth Violence in Baltimore City**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Police Commissioner; the
4 State's Attorney for Baltimore City; the Chief Academic Officer of the Baltimore City Public
5 School System; the Deputy Commissioner of Youth Wellness & Community Health from the
6 Baltimore City Health Department; the Chief of Police for the Baltimore City School Police;
7 the Director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement; the Director of
8 the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success; the Director of the Mayor's Office of
9 Employment Development; the Director of the Mayor's Office of African-American Male
10 Engagement; the Director of the Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation; and
11 interested members of the Baltimore City Youth Commission to come before the City
12 Council to discuss the increase in youth violence across the city; and the risk factors that are
13 driving these incidents.

14
15 On January 1, 2022, the first two victims of homicide for this year were 16-year old Desmond
16 Canada and 17-year old Bernard Thomas. Over the last 15-years there have been approximately
17 220 youth under the age of 18 killed as a result of violence. In 2021 more than 40 youth under the
18 age of 18 were victims of non-fatal shootings with many of the perpetrators of these crimes being
19 members of the same age cohort. In a report that was published by the Center for Children's Law
20 and Policy, a Youth Diversion Assessment was conducted specifically for Baltimore City, which
21 showed that during fiscal year 2018, 40 percent of Baltimore City juvenile intakes were for
22 misdemeanor offenses, 30 percent were for felony offenses excluding crimes of violence, and the
23 remaining 30 percent were for crimes of violence.

24 Studies show that there is a gradual progression of delinquent behavior for youth and young
25 adults who end up in the criminal justice system. Home and school-based behavior can be used
26 as early warning signs of potential delinquent or criminal acts. A report generated by the
27 Maryland Department of Education showed that during school-year 2017–2018 5.4 percent of
28 students enrolled in Baltimore City Public Schools were suspended or expelled, with the highest
29 rate of suspensions spanning between children in the 4th through 9th grades.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 22-0111R

1 Globally, 84 percent of youth homicide victims are males, and most perpetrators are males
2 too. For every young person killed by violence, even more sustain injuries that require hospital
3 treatment. Statistics show that firearm attacks end more often in fatal injuries than assaults that
4 involve fists, feet, knives, and blunt force objects. Youth homicide and non-fatal violence not
5 only contribute greatly to the global burden of premature death, injury, and disability, but also
6 have a serious, often lifelong, impact on a person's psychological and social functioning.
7 Preventing youth violence requires a comprehensive approach that addresses the social
8 determinants of violence, such as income inequality, rapid demographic and social change, and
9 low levels of social protection.

10 In this hearing the City Council would like a briefing on:

- 11 1. The prior year statistics relating to homicides, non-fatal shootings, arrest, and other
12 part one crimes concerning youth 17 years of age and younger;
- 13 2. How we can build early warning systems to identify at-risk youth and young adults
14 between the ages of 9 through 14 years old;
- 15 3. How we can strengthen home and school-based violence prevention programs;
- 16 4. How we can create a Youth Coordinating Officer within each police district;
- 17 5. Creative ideas on how to re-establish the Police Athletic League program through
18 Public - Private partnerships;
- 19 6. The content being discussed, and the performance metrics being established for
20 YouthStat meetings so that partnering agencies can pinpoint critical issues affecting
21 youth and young adults; and
- 22 7. What programming will be put in place to mitigate against these issues.

23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
24 Baltimore City Council invites the Baltimore City Police Commissioner; the State's Attorney for
25 Baltimore City; the Chief Academic Officer of the Baltimore City Public School System; the
26 Deputy Commissioner of Youth Wellness & Community Health from the Baltimore City Health
27 Department; the Chief of Police for the Baltimore City School Police; the Director of the
28 Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement; the Director of the Mayor's Office of
29 Children and Family Success; the Director of the Mayor's Office of Employment Development;
30 the Director of the Mayor's Office of African-American Male Engagement; the Director of the
31 Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation; and interested members of the Baltimore City
32 Youth Commission to come before the City Council to discuss the increase in youth violence
33 across the city; and the risk factors that are driving these incidents.

34 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Police
35 Commissioner of the Baltimore Police Department; the State's Attorney for Baltimore City; the
36 Chief Academic Officer of the Baltimore City Public School System; the Deputy Commissioner
37 of Youth Wellness & Community Health from the Baltimore City Health Department; the Chief
38 of Police for the Baltimore City School Police; the Director of the Mayor's Office of
39 Neighborhood Safety and Engagement; the Director of the Mayor's Office of Children and
40 Family Success; the Director of the Mayor's Office of Employment Development; the Director of

Council Bill 22-0111R

1 the Mayor's Office of African-American Male Engagement; the Director of the Mayor's Office
2 of Performance and Innovation; and interested members of the Baltimore City Youth
3 Commission and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the Baltimore City Council.