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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 10, 2023
10:01 AM**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Council Resolution #23-0175R

Informational Hearing – Parity in Women's Sports

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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John Bullock – Vice Chair

Mark Conway

Ryan Dorsey

Antonio Glover

Odette Ramos

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Staff: Matthew Peters

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Eric Costello, Chair

Kristerfer Burnett

Ryan Dorsey

Danielle McCray

Sharon Green Middleton

Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer

Robert Stokes

Staff: Marguerite Currin

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Zeke Cohen

Erick Costello

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Odette Ramos

Staff: Anthony Leva

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Phylicia Porter

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Staff: Marguerite Currin

HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY

(HET)

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John Bullock

Mark Conway

Ryan Dorsey

Phylicia Porter

James Torrence

Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer

Staff: Deontre Hayes

RULES AND LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

(OVERSIGHT)

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Kristerfer Burnett

Mark Conway

Eric Costello

Sharon Green Middleton

Odette Ramos

James Torrence

Staff: Richard Krummerich

LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Eric Costello, Chair

Sharon Green Middleton, Vice Chair

Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer, Chair

Robert Stokes

Danielle McCray

Staff: Marguerite Currin

Effective: 07/17/23

Revised: 07/13/23



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Education, Workforce and Youth

Resolution: 23-0175R

Informational Hearing – Parity in Women’s Sport

Sponsor: President Mosby, et al

Introduced: May 15, 2023

Purpose:

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System and other relevant stakeholders to brief the City Council on the accessibility and resources available to women’s sports in relation to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 codified at 20 UCS § 1681 *et seq.* (“Title IX”), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities in all public and private elementary and secondary schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds.

Effective: On the date it is enacted.

Agency Reports

Law Department	Amend/Favorable
Baltimore City Public School System	PowerPoint Presentation to be Shown

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

Resolution, 23-0175R is companion to Resolution 23-0174R; both pertains to sports programs offered in the Baltimore City Public School System except one focus on sports programs offered in Middle Schools and the other on the sports provided for female students.

On Thursday, August 10, 2023, representatives from the BCPSS, including other pertinent stakeholders will come before the committee/councilmembers to discuss these concerns.

Per the primary sponsor of both Resolutions, “When it comes to sports we often focus on our males but not as much on the resources and sports available to our females.”¹

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: None

Information Source(s): City Code, Council Resolution 22-0175R, and all agency reports received as of this writing.

Marguerite M. Currin

Analysis by: Marguerite M. Currin
Analysis Date: August 7, 2023

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

¹ The Honorable Nicholas Mosby, President of the Baltimore City Council.

Council Resolution 23-0175R
Agency Report(s)

See Attached

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT,
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON,
ACTING CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

July 27, 2023

Honorable President
Members of the City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary
409 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202

RE: Council Bill 23-0175R – Informational Hearing – Parity in Women’s Sports

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 23-0175R. The bill invites representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System and other relevant stakeholders to brief the City Council on the accessibility and resources available to women’s sports in relation to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC § 1681 et seq. (“Title IX”), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities in all public and private elementary and secondary schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds.

On line 11 of the bill the word “[populations?]” appears with a question mark in brackets following the word “classes.” Council Bill 23-0175R should be amended to delete the bracketed word.

In general, Art. III, §9 of the City Charter and City Code Art. 1, §1-4 give the City Council authority to study or investigate the operation of City agencies and to make recommendations for the more effective operation of the agencies. Article III, §9 of the Charter requires department heads, municipal officers not embraced in a department, and members of commissions and boards to appear before the City Council if so requested to participate in the discussion of matters relating to their respective departments, offices, commissions, or boards.

The General Assembly created a joint partnership between the City and State to improve the public school system in the City. See MD Education Art., § 4-303(a). Under this system the Mayor and General Assembly jointly appoint members to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. See MD Fisc. Note, 2002 Sess. H.B. 853, pp. 2-3. The Board of School Commissioners is governed by State law. Accordingly, the Council may only request that a representative of the Board of School Commissioners participate in the informational hearing.

Additionally, provisions of federal and State law governing students and schools may limit the information that can be disclosed regarding the topic of this informational hearing.

Council Bill 23-0175R is an appropriate resolution to initiate this process and request the specified officials to attend to provide information on the accessibility and resources available to women's sports in relation to Title IX. The Law Department approves Council Bill 23-0175R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michele Toth", written in dark ink on a light background.

Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Nina Themelis
Sofia Gebrehiwot
Tiffany Maclin
Elena DiPietro
Hilary Ruley
Ashlea Brown
Jeff Hochstetler
Teresa Cummings

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 23-0175R
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: President Mosby

Introduced and read first time: May 15, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Baltimore City Public School System

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Parity in Women’s Sports**

3 FOR the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System and
4 other relevant stakeholders to brief the City Council on the accessibility and resources
5 available to women’s sports in relation to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
6 codified at 20 USC § 1681 *et seq.* (“Title IX”), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of
7 sex in education programs and activities in all public and private elementary and secondary
8 schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds.

9 **Whereas**, studies show that notwithstanding the successes of Title IX, there are certain
10 areas that still need significant improvement. Women from marginalized populations have not
11 been able to benefit from Title IX as much more privileged classes [populations?]. Women’s
12 Sports Foundation reported that girls at schools where people of color are in the majority have
13 access to 67% of the athletic opportunities of their male classmates. This is starkly different from
14 the numbers in predominantly white schools where girls see 82% of the athletic opportunities of
15 their male classmates.

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the City
17 Council invites representatives from the Baltimore City Public School System and other relevant
18 stakeholders to brief the City Council on the accessibility and resources available to women’s
19 sports in relation to Title IX as applied within the Baltimore City Public School System.

20 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the CEO of the
21 Baltimore City Public School System and the Mayor’s legislative liaison to the City Council.

NOT SUBMITTED TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE
REFERENCE
FOR PREPARATION AND
ENDORSEMENT

10MAY23

CITY COUNCIL RULE 8-7

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