CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 15-0227R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Middleton, President Young, Councilmembers Costello, Stokes, Kraft, Holton, Scott, Reisinger, Clarke, Spector, Mosby, Branch, Henry, Welch Introduced and adopted: May 11, 2015

A Council Resolution Concerning

1	Older Americans Month – May 2015
2 3 4 5	FOR the purpose of recognizing May 2015 as Older Americans Month, and urging all Baltimoreans to take time this month to <i>Get into the Act</i> by celebrating older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to the community.
6	Recitals
7 8	WHEREAS , Baltimore City includes a thriving community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for future generations.
9 10	WHEREAS , Baltimore is committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives in the communities of their choice for as long as possible.
11 12 13 14	WHEREAS, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provided services that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, helping prevent hospital readmissions, and supporting some of life's most basic functions, such as bathing or preparing meals.
15 16	WHEREAS , these programs also support family caregivers, and address issues of exploitation, neglect, or abuse of older adults.
17 18	WHEREAS , we recognize the value of community engagement and service in helping older adults remain healthy and active while giving back to others.
19 20	WHEREAS , our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:
21	• Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social inclusion.
22	• Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living.
23 24	 Ensuring that community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.
25 26 27	WHEREAS, This year, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act (OAA),Older Americans Month is focusing on how older adults are taking charge of their health, getting engaged in their communities, and making a positive impact in the lives of others.

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1	WHEREAS, The theme for Older Americans Month 2015 is Get into the Act.
2 3	WHEREAS , Now is the time to <i>Get into the Act</i> to make the benefits of community living a reality for more older Americans.
4 5	WHEREAS , Together we can promote healthy aging, increase community involvement for older adults, and tackle important issues like the prevention of elder abuse.
6 7 8 9	Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE , that the Council recognizes May 2015 as Older Americans Month, and urges all Baltimoreans to take time this month to <i>Get into the Act</i> by celebrating older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to the community.
10 11 12	AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED , That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Health Commissioner, the Baltimore City Commission on Aging & Retirement Education, the Director of Recreation and Parks, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.