CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 21-0012R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Stokes, McCray, Middleton, Burnett, Bullock, Ramos, Torrence, Conway, Glover, Cohen

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2021

Assigned to: Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Baltimore City Public School System, Fire Department, Health Department, Department of Housing and Community Development, Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning 1 Investigative Hearing - Safe Return to In-Person Schooling 2 FOR the purpose of inviting the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System to provide the 3 4 City Council with an update regarding safety precautions the School System is taking for the 5 return of students to in-person schooling and inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Fire Department, Health Department, and Department of Housing and Community 6 Development to comment on the adequacy of those safety precautions. 7 8 Recitals 9 WHEREAS, Due to the pandemic, the majority of Baltimore City schoolchildren have been participating in virtual schooling since last spring; 10 11 WHEREAS, The Baltimore City Public School System ("BCPSS") will gradually introduce more students back to traditional in-person classes beginning with the start of the second 12 semester, specifically students in kindergarten through 5th grade as well as 9th and 12th grade 13 students, although families will have the option to remain in virtual learning; and 14 15 WHEREAS, The City Council and the public need to know what safety precautions BCPSS is taking in reopening schools to some students, such as whether all teachers will be vaccinated 16 17 before students are allowed back, how classrooms will be organized for social distancing, information regarding ventilation systems in the schools, and whether the systems can adequately 18 19 protect building visitors, etc. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City 20 Council invites the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System is taking for the return of 21 students to in-person schooling and inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Fire 22 23 Department, Health Department, and Department of Housing and Community Development to comment on the adequacy of those safety precautions. 24

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System, the Health Commissioner, the Fire Chief, the Acting Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.