



Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Clarke

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning
The Baltimore City Youth Development Task Force

FOR the purpose of establishing a citywide task force to work with the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, and the Family League to provide substantive direction on how best to expand and allocate resources being spent on positive youth-centered activities for Baltimore's communities.

Recitals

WHEREAS, In fiscal year 1990, Baltimore spent \$37 million on Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2010, we are poised to spend \$31 million; and

WHEREAS, Recreation centers, libraries, youth employment programs and other after-school activities are the best tools that City government has available to prevent not just crime, but the creation of the criminals themselves; and

WHEREAS, Youth development isn't another priority in competition with public safety; it is public safety.

SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That there is established the Baltimore City Youth Development Task Force, a citywide task force to work with and advise the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, the Family League, and the Department of Finance on how best to expand and allocate resources being spent on the promotion of positive youth-centered activities for Baltimore's communities.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force is comprised of:

1. The Director of Recreation and Parks or a designee;
2. The Executive Director of the Enoch Pratt Free Library or a designee;
3. The Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Employment Development or a designee;
4. The Executive Director of the Family League or a designee;

5. The Police Commissioner or a designee;
6. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the City Council's Education Committee;

7. The Chair of the City Council's Budget and Appropriations Committee;
8. The Chair of the City's Youth Commission;
9. The President of the Greater Baltimore Committee or a designee
10. The CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System or a designee; and
11. 13 neighborhood and business representatives, 6 appointed by the President of the City Council, at least one of whom shall be under 18 years of age, and 7 appointed by the Mayor, at least one of whom shall be under 18 years of age. The Mayor will name 2 co-chairs from among those 13 appointed members.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force will be appointed and convened within 60 days of the adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force is authorized to appoint committees comprised of members and/or additional neighborhood and business representatives to carry out specific tasks, such as research on national or international models and best practices of youth development and outreach by organizing public hearings throughout the City to solicit ideas and report draft recommendations.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force is authorized to estimate the capital and/or operational costs of any additional programming recommended by the Task Force.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force will be staffed by both the Office of Council Services and the Department of Finance and is directed to recommend a 10-year plan for increasing the collective municipal expenditure on youth development to be no less than 20% of the funding spent on the rest of the City's public safety budget.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force will conduct at least 3 public hearings throughout the City before finalizing its final recommendations to the Mayor and City Council.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force will issue its final report to the Mayor and City Council within 1 year of the adoption of this resolution.

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Directors of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, the Family League, and the Baltimore Police Commissioner, to the Greater Baltimore Committee, the Baltimore City Public School System, and to all neighborhood leaders listed with the Department of Planning.

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