



Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Branch

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning
Informational Hearing - Preparedness and Safety in Our Schools and Communities

FOR the purpose of calling on representatives from Baltimore City Public Schools, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to appear before the Council to discuss emergency preparedness and safety in our schools and communities in the wake of the recent Newtown and Boston tragedies.

Recitals

The recent, horrific events in Newtown, Connecticut and Boston, Massachusetts served to remind us once again that no community is immune to unexpected tragedy. While we may never be able to fully understand what could bring anyone to unleash such violence on innocent people, or to fully anticipate how and where future evil may strike, we can try to draw lessons from these events that may reduce the risk of ever having them repeated.

At the Federal and State levels, efforts are already underway to provide more funding and support for school and community security. Many school systems and localities nationwide are reevaluating their security and crisis response plans to determine if weaknesses have been exposed that need to be addressed.

Similarly, Baltimore should take this moment to evaluate whether it has the necessary plans and resources in place to effectively respond to any threat to our citizens. Preparedness and safety in our schools and communities must always be a priority, and with new resources and approaches likely to become available to help provide security in the near future, now is the time to systematically review the City's safety plans for its schools and for the general community and to determine where improvements are most needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council calls on representatives from Baltimore City Public Schools, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to appear before it to discuss emergency preparedness and safety in our schools and communities in the wake of the recent Newtown and Boston tragedies.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Police Commissioner, the CEO of Baltimore City Public Schools, the Chief of the Fire Department, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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ccres/SchoolCrisisPrepare/tw

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