

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**2006 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-42-2006

Proposed by Council Members Dean Dernoga, Exum, Harrington, Peters and Knotts

Introduced by Council Members Dean, Dernoga, Exum, Harrington, Peters Knotts, Campos

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction May 23, 2006

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Blue Ribbon Committee on High Stakes Testing

3 For the purpose of establishing the Blue Ribbon Committee on High Stakes Testing to evaluate  
4 the application and validity of the High School Assessments slated to begin with the 2009  
5 graduating class.

6 WHEREAS, the Maryland State Department of Education governs the criteria for which  
7 Maryland students must satisfy in order to receive a Maryland High School Diploma.

8 WHEREAS, High School Assessments developed by the Maryland Department of  
9 Education tests students in four core subjects: English, government, algebra/data analysis, and  
10 biology.

11 WHEREAS, COMAR 13A.03.02.09, mandates that High School Students in the graduating  
12 class of 2009 and thereafter, are required to earn a satisfactory score, as defined by subsection  
13 B.(3) of the Regulation, on the High School Assessments as a prerequisite to earning a Maryland  
14 High School Diploma.

15 WHEREAS, the County Council desires to further examine the High School Assessments  
16 and their impact on the students in the Prince George's County Public Schools and consider  
17 appropriate recommendations relating thereto; and

18 WHEREAS, Section 506 of the Charter provides that the Council may appoint, for  
19 designated periods, one or more temporary advisory boards of citizens of the County who shall  
20 assist in the consideration of County policies and programs.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's  
22 County, Maryland, that the Blue Ribbon Committee on High Stakes Testing is created and

1 charged with the responsibility to:

- 2 1. Evaluate whether the High School Assessments meet standards of quality and validity;
- 3 2. Analyze the one size fits all approach to high stakes testing methodology and its effect
- 4 on the student population in the Prince George's County Public Schools; and
- 5 3. Determine whether there are practical alternatives to high stakes testing.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Blue Ribbon Committee on High Stakes Testing  
7 shall have a total of 12 members comprised of:

- 8 1. 1 member appointed by the County Executive;
- 9 2. 3 members appointed by the County Council, one of whom shall be designated as the
- 10 Chairman;
- 11 3. 1 member appointed by the Maryland State Department of Education;
- 12 4. 1 member appointed by the Chair of the Prince George's County Senate Delegation;
- 13 5. 1 member appointed by the Chair of the Prince George's County House Delegation;
- 14 6. 2 members appointed by the Prince George's County Public Schools;
- 15 7. 1 member appointed by the National Education Association;
- 16 8. 1 member appointed by the Prince George's County Educator's Association;
- 17 9. 1 member appointed by the Association of Supervisory and Administrative School
- 18 Personnel; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Blue Ribbon Committee on High Stakes Testing  
20 shall present its recommendations to the County Council and the County Executive no later than  
21 October 3, 2006.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council Administrator shall provide appropriate  
23 staff support to the Blue Ribbon Committee on High Stakes Testing.

Adopted this 23rd day of May, 2006.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas E. Dernoga  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council