

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2021 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-125-2021
Proposed by Council Member Taveras
Introduced by Council Members Taveras, Hawkins, Franklin, Ivey, Dernoga, Harrison,
Glaros, Turner, Anderson-Walker, and Davis
Co-Sponsors _____
Date of Introduction October 26, 2021

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

3 For the purpose of recognizing October 2021 as National Bullying Prevention Month and
4 acknowledging the need for effective bullying intervention.

5 WHEREAS, everyday thousands of young people experience bullying from their peers
6 while at school, after school in their neighborhoods, and even through social media and texts,
7 when at home. There are many ways to support bullying prevention as an individual or with
8 friends and family, and within your school or community; and

9 WHEREAS, National Bullying Prevention Month is a campaign founded in 2006 by
10 PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center. The campaign is held during the month of
11 October and unites communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness on bullying
12 prevention. Initially held the first week in October, the event was expanded in 2010 to the entire
13 month; and

14 WHEREAS, over the last year, schools throughout the US have experienced a frightening
15 increase in bullying and acts of hate. Each year, schools across the US participate in bullying
16 prevention activities during the month of October; and

17 WHEREAS, bullying directly affects a student's ability to learn. Students who are bullied
18 often do not want to go to school. They often find it difficult to concentrate, show a decline in
19 grades, and lose self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-worth; and

20 WHEREAS, students can be especially effective in bullying intervention. More than 55
21 percent of bullying situations will stop when a peer intervenes. Student education on how to

1 address bullying for peers is critical, as is the support of adults; and

2 WHEREAS, according to the PACER Center, more than 160,000 U.S. students stay home
3 from school each day from fear of being bullied; and

4 WHEREAS, according to StopBullying.gov, students can have multiple roles: they can be
5 the one subjected to bullying and the one who bullies. Strategies that focus on holding students
6 accountable for their behavior – but also empower them to change that behavior – are more
7 effective than punitive punishments and peer mediation in bullying situations; and

8 WHEREAS, bullying is a community wide issue that must no longer be ignored or thought
9 of as a rite of passage. Students, parents, and educators all have a role in addressing bullying
10 situations and changing school culture; and

11 WHEREAS, there are several websites that work to prevent bullying and raise awareness of
12 the significant impact bullying has on people. Websites that provide such important resources
13 include: StopBullying.gov (a website maintained by the federal government that provides
14 information from the U.S. Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services,
15 and other agencies), Bullying Prevention (a resource from the Maryland State Department of
16 Education), National Bullying Prevention Center (a resource from the nonprofit PACER
17 organization), and Family Online Safety Institute (a resource about both cyberbullying and
18 keeping children safe on the Internet); and

19 WHEREAS, supporting and empowering Maryland’s youth to stop bullying is crucial to the
20 success and future of our city and its budding young leaders.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
22 County, Maryland, that October 2021 is recognized as National Bullying Prevention Month and
23 acknowledges the need for effective bullying intervention.

Adopted this 26th day of October, 2021.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Calvin S. Hawkins, II
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council