

Offered by Councilor Michael P. Ross



## CITY OF BOSTON

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IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINE

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### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PASSAGE OF MASSACHUSETTS SENATE BILL 940: AN ACT TO IMPROVE JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA COLLECTION IN THE 2009-2010 SESSION

- WHEREAS*, The Metro region, which includes the City of Boston, commits more young people to the Department of Youth Services than any other region; and,
- WHEREAS*, The Boston City Council is committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes in young people's lives through a multifaceted approach including data collection and reporting; and,
- WHEREAS*, Data collection and reporting is even more imperative in times of financial crisis when state agencies have limited resources that must be invested in only the most effective programs; and,
- WHEREAS*, Racial disparities are at a crisis point in juvenile justice systems around the country, and the Massachusetts state system lacks the data needed to address this issues which deeply affects the diverse residents of Boston; and,
- WHEREAS*, Failure to collect and report data and address disparities means Massachusetts is out of compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act which puts our state at risk for losing much needed federal dollars; and,
- WHEREAS*, Senate Bill 940 "An Act to Improve Juvenile Justice Data Collection" is essential to a fair and effective juvenile justice system; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*
- RESOLVED*, that the Boston City Council calls on the Massachusetts state legislature to pass Senate Bill 940 "An Act to Improve Juvenile Justice Data Collection."

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