

**Summary**

**Board Bill Number 26**

**Introduced by: Alderman John Collins-Muhammad**

**May 14, 2021**

The Board Bill authorizes and directs the Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to develop and operate a midnight basketball league in the City of St. Louis, at the recreational centers owned by the City of St. Louis and operated by the Division of Recreation.

**BOARD BILL NUMBER 26 INTRODUCED BY: ALDERMAN JOHN COLLINS - MUHAMMAD**

1 An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to  
2 develop and operate a Midnight Basketball League in the City of St. Louis, at the  
3 recreational centers owned by the City of Saint Louis and operated by the Division of  
4 Recreation.

5 **WHEREAS**, Midnight Basketball was an initiative created in the 1990s to curb inner-city crime  
6 in the United States by keeping urban youth off the streets and engaging them with alternatives  
7 to drugs and crime.

8 **WHEREAS**, Midnight Basketball is a way for young men to form a sense of community, get out  
9 of a dangerous environment, and give them a sense of hope for the future.

10 **WHEREAS**, Midnight basketball helped decrease crime in the neighborhoods where it was run,  
11 and it was a positive outlet for many young men. It helped many stay out of trouble and off the  
12 streets.

13 **WHEREAS**, Since 2019, various cities in the United States currently operate a Midnight  
14 Basketball Program.

15 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

16 **SECTION ONE.** The Director of Parks Recreation and Forestry is hereby directed and  
17 authorized to develop and operate a Midnight Basketball League commencing every June and

1 concluding in September of each year in the City of Saint Louis, at the recreational centers  
2 owned by the City of Saint Louis and operated by the Division of Recreation.

3 **SECTION TWO.** The Midnight Basketball League shall be for participants, aged fourteen to  
4 twenty-nine who reside within the City of Saint Louis and such League shall consists of  
5 programs including; Youth Development, Employment Preparation, and Health and Wellness.  
6 The program(s) shall help young people get to a place where they would be self-sufficient and  
7 well-versed in how to act and live successfully, while staying away from violent or harmful  
8 situations.

9 **SECTION THREE. Emergency Clause.** This being an ordinance for the  
10 preservation of public peace, health, and safety, it is hereby declared to be an emergency  
11 measure within the meaning of Sections 19 and 20 of Article IV of the Charter of the City of St.  
12 Louis, and therefore this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and  
13 approval by the Mayor.