_____   _____
Councilmember Mary M. Cheh   Councilmember Charles Allen

A BILL

_____

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

_____

To amend, on an emergency basis, the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955 to provide
        students with an excused absence of at least 2 hours to vote in person in any Board-run
        election, or, if the student is not a District resident, in any election run by the jurisdiction
        in which the student is registered to vote, and allow the educational institution to specify
        the hours during which the student takes leave, including by requiring the student to take
        leave during early voting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this

act may be cited as the "Leave to Vote Emergency Amendment Act of 2020".

Sec. 2. The District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69

Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.01 *et seq.*), is amended by adding a new section 7a to

read as follows:

"Sec. 7a. Leave to vote.

"(a) For the purposes of this section, the term:

"(1) "Educational institution" means any school in the District of Columbia

Public Schools system, a public charter school, an independent school, a private school, a

parochial school, or a private instructor in the District.

"(2) "Student" means any person who is enrolled in an educational institution who

is eligible to vote.

34   "(b) Upon the request of a student, an educational institution shall provide the student an

35   excused absence of at least 2 hours to vote in person in any election held under this act, or, if the

36   student is not registered to vote in the District, in any election run by the jurisdiction in which the

37   student is registered to vote; provided, that the student's educational institution may specify the

38   hours during which the student may take the leave, including by requiring that the student take

39   the leave during any period designated for early voting instead of on the day of the election.".

40   Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

41   The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact

42   statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975, approved

43   October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

44   Sec. 4. Effective date.

45   This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the

46   Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than

47   90 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section

48   412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788;

49   D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).