

Council of the District of Columbia
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BRIANNE K. NADEAU
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson
FROM: Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau
RE: Request to Agendize Measures for the July 7, 2020, Legislative Meeting
DATE: June 30, 2020

I request that the following measures be agendized for the July 7, 2020 Legislative Meeting:

- **“Standby Guardian Emergency Amendment Act of 2020”**
- **“Standby Guardian Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020”**
- **“Standby Guardian Temporary Amendment Act of 2020”**

This legislation would expand, on an emergency basis, the standby guardianship law to enable a parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian who is, or may be subject to an adverse immigration action or at risk of exposure to COVID-19, to make short-term plans for a child without terminating or limiting that person’s parental or custodial rights.

In 2019, the Council enacted emergency and temporary legislation to enable a parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to be able to make plans to protect the wellbeing of their children in advance of an adverse immigration action. The temporary legislation, “Standby Temporary Amendment Act of 2019”, became law on November 26, 2019 (D.C. Law 23-30; 66 DCR 16308), and is set to expire on July 8, 2020. The corresponding permanent legislation, B22-402, the “Standby Guardian Amendment Act of 2019”, is currently under Council Review with no projected date to become law due to delays in Council proceedings as a result of the current public health emergency.

Additionally, in 2020, the Council enacted emergency and temporary legislation to enable a parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to be able to make plans to protect the wellbeing of their children in the event that they suffer from COVID-19. The emergency legislation, “Coronavirus Support Emergency Amendment Act of 2020” (B23-757; D.C. Law 23-326), was signed by the Mayor on May 27, 2020 and is currently retained by the Council. The temporary legislation, “Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2020” (B23-758), had its final reading on June 9, 2020.

There exists an immediate need for the District of Columbia (“District”) to enact legislation to extend the standby guardianship laws to enable a parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to be able to make plans to protect the wellbeing of their children in advance of an adverse immigration action or exposure to COVID-19.

Please contact Benjamin Davis, Committee Director, at bdavis@dccouncil.us or (202) 741-2111 if you have any questions.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia
Office of the Secretary
Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Budget Director
Mayor's Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs