

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to prohibit a third-party meal delivery platform from arranging to deliver a meal order from a restaurant without first obtaining an agreement with the restaurant expressly authorizing the third-party meal delivery platform to collect meal orders and deliver meals prepared by the restaurant.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Fair Meals Delivery Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. (a) On March 11, 2020, the Mayor issued Mayor's Orders 2020-45 and 2020-46, declaring a public emergency and a public health emergency in the District due to the imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of District residents posed by the spread of COVID-19. Additional mayoral orders have since been issued.

(b) As a result of the public health emergency, restaurants have been operating at a limited capacity, and it has forced many consumers to order more take-out meals from their homes using websites, mobile applications, or other internet services.

(c) Many times, the websites, mobile applications, or other internet services are not operated by restaurants but rather, by a third-party meal delivery platform.

34 (d) As a matter of principle, a restaurant should know who or what platform is providing  
35 meal-delivery services for consumers who order meals from its restaurant.

36 (e) The underlying emergency would ensure that a third-party meal delivery platform  
37 must first obtain an express agreement from a restaurant to collect meal orders and deliver meals  
38 prepared by the restaurant to consumers.

39 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances  
40 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that Fair Meals  
41 Delivery Emergency Amendment Act of 2021 be adopted after a single reading.

42 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.