

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency, due to congressional review, with respect to the need to establish an Office of Racial Equity to coordinate the District’s efforts to achieve racial equity and to require the Office to establish a Racial Equity Advisory Board to advise it and to serve as a liaison to the public, to establish a Commission on Racial Equity, Social Justice, and Economic Inclusion to advise the Council, to state the sense of the Council that it should include in its rules for Council Period 24 the establishment of a Racial Equity Program; to amend the Office of Human Rights Establishment Act of 1999 to require the Office of Human Rights, in coordination with the Department of Human Resources and the Office of Racial Equity, to provide racial equity training for District employees and District boards and commissions; and to amend Chapter 3 of Title 47 of the District of Columbia Official Code to require the Office of Racial Equity to coordinate with the Office of the City Administrator to design and implement racial equity tools to aid in eliminating racial disparities and to require the Mayor, beginning in Fiscal Year 2022, to include racial equity-related performance measures in the development of an agency’s annual performance plans and an evaluation of the use of racial equity tools in the annual performance accountability reports.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Congressional Review Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. (a) In 2020, the Council passed emergency and temporary legislation to, among other things, establish an Office of Racial Equity and a Commission on Racial Equity, Social Justice, and Economic Inclusion. The Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Emergency Amendment Act of 2020, effective December 7, 2020 (D.C. Act 23-521; 67 DCR 14433), (“emergency act”) expires on March 6, 2021.

40 (b) The Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Amendment Act of 2020, enacted on  
41 December 7, 2020 (D.C. Act 23-503; 67 DCR 14390), (“permanent act”) has not completed the  
42 30-day congressional review period required by section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia  
43 Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-  
44 206.02(c)(1)), and is not projected to become law until March 15, 2021.

45 (c) It is important that the provisions of the emergency act continue in effect, without  
46 interruption, until the permanent act is law.

47 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances  
48 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Racial  
49 Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Congressional Review Emergency Amendment Act of 2021  
50 be adopted after a single reading.

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