

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare November 20, 2021, as the Transgender Day of Remembrance in the District of Columbia, and to commemorate transgender individuals lost to systems of violence in the region.

WHEREAS, on August 7, 1995, Tyra Hunter, a Black transgender woman, suffered life-threatening injuries in a traffic accident in the District of Columbia, but emergency medical service technicians and other employees of the District government refused to provide her with standard lifesaving medical treatment after determining that she was transgender;

WHEREAS, Tyra Hunter died that night, and expert testimony in a subsequent lawsuit against the District of Columbia revealed that adequate medical treatment would have given her an 86% chance of survival, but the District government appealed a jury verdict awarding her mother \$2.9 million and insisted on a lesser settlement amount;

WHEREAS, in 1998, residents of Allston, Massachusetts and surrounding communities came together to mourn Rita Hester, a Black transgender woman whose murder inspired the Remembering Our Dead online project and eventually the Transgender Day of Remembrance observed each year on November 20;

WHEREAS, the Human Rights Clarification Amendment Act of 2005 established gender identity and expression as characteristics expressly protected from discrimination in the District of Columbia, and the fiscal year 2022 District of Columbia budget makes significant investments

in workforce training and other supports for transgender residents, but the District government must continue to find ways to make the District of Columbia a safe and supportive place for transgender residents and visitors to thrive;

WHEREAS, incarceration, homelessness, and poverty disproportionately harm transgender people, especially transgender women of color, and continue to claim their lives;

WHEREAS, since the 2020 Transgender Day of Remembrance, transgender people in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, have continued to die by homicide, including Taya Ashton, EJ Boykin, and Danika Henson;

WHEREAS, the inequities faced by transgender people have claimed the lives of Giselle Hartzog, Kim Tova Wirtz, and Nona Moselle Conner;

WHEREAS, many transgender community members die every year without recognition of the true impact of discrimination they shouldered; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ communities and organizations around the world will observe the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, 2021.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Transgender Day of Remembrance Recognition Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia declares November 20, 2021, as the Transgender Day of Remembrance in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.