

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund Establishment Act of 2021 to authorize the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to create a grant program that supports pay parity for early childhood educators in accordance with the recommendations of the Early Childhood Educator Equitable Compensation Task Force and to enter into a sole source grant agreement for the purposes of implementing this program.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Office of the State Superintendent of Education Pay Parity Program for Early Childhood Educators Authorization Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2022”.

Sec. 2. (a) There exists an immediate need to grant procurement authority to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to hire a vendor to issue direct to educator payments from the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund.

(b) The Birth-to-Three for All DC Act of 2018, effective October 30, 2018 (D.C. Law 22-179; D.C. Official Code § 4-410.01), requires the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (“OSSE”) to develop an updated compensation scale for child development facilities

38 to achieve compensation parity with elementary school teachers employed by the District of
39 Columbia Public Schools (“DCPS”), taking into account teacher roles, credentials, and
40 experience.

41 (c) OSSE has not yet enacted an updated compensation scale pursuant to the law. As part
42 of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Support Act of 2021, effective Nov 13, 2021, (D.C. Law 24-45;
43 68 DCR 12567), the Council unanimously voted to form an Early Childhood Educator Equitable
44 Compensation Task Force (“Task Force”). The Task Force is charged with proposing an
45 employee compensation scale for early childhood development providers and further
46 recommending a permanent system to implement a new employee compensation scale by
47 January 15, 2022.

48 (d) On January 4, 2022, the Council unanimously approved B24-0595 Early Childhood
49 Educator Equitable Compensation Task Force Temporary Amendment Act of 2022, which
50 allowed the Task Force to propose a short-term report on January 15, 2022 and extended the date
51 for the long-term report to April 15, 2022.

52 (e) The Task Force submitted their short-term report on January 14, 2022. In the report,
53 the Task Force recommends a “direct-to-educator” short-term mechanism that would quickly
54 disburse funds to eligible educators. Further the task force recommends OSSE procure an
55 experienced intermediary to manage the payment process, from intake and verification to
56 payment and documentations, for the payments from the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity
57 Fund specified in § 1–325.431(b)(1).

58 (d) In order for OSSE to procure an intermediary, OSSE first requires Council
59 authorization to create a grant program that supports pay parity for early childhood educators in
60 accordance with the recommendations of the Early Childhood Educator Equitable Compensation

61 Task Force and to enter into a sole source grant agreement for the purposes of implementing this
62 program. Thus, this emergency legislation gives OSSE that required explicit authority.

63 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
64 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Early
65 Childhood Educator Equitable Compensation Task Force Emergency Amendment Act of 2022
66 be adopted after a single reading.

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