

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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1 To direct, on an emergency basis, the Mayor to propose a supplemental budget request and to  
2 declare the sense of the Council in support of using supplemental funds available from  
3 the fiscal year 2021 surplus or additional fiscal year 2022 revenues as may be necessary  
4 to issue high-quality masks to students and school staff, to provide temporary premium  
5 pay for substitute teachers and other hard-to-fill school staff, to improve and repair  
6 HVAC systems if necessary, to provide temporary covid leave benefits for District  
7 employees, and to offer additional emergency rental and utility assistance, and on related  
8 matters.

9 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
10 resolution may be cited as the “Omicron Response and Fiscal Year 2022 Supplemental Budget  
11 Emergency Resolution of 2022”.

12 Sec. 2. (a) Pursuant to section 442(d) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,  
13 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 798; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.42(d)) and this  
14 resolution, the Mayor shall prepare and submit to the Council a supplemental budget  
15 recommendation for Fiscal Year 2022 by March 16, 2022.

16 (b) The supplemental budget request shall include the information set forth in section 4 of  
17 the Fiscal Year Budget Submission Requirements Resolution of 2021, effective December 24,  
18 2021 (Res. 24-311; 68 DCR 13776).

19           Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that:

20           (a) The supplemental budget request should fund the following one-time expenditures:

21                   (1) High-quality, well-fitting masks or respirators that provide greater protection  
22 than cloth or surgical masks issued to students and staff of public schools and public charter  
23 schools providing in-person instruction;

24                   (2) Temporary premium pay for school-based staff in hard-to-fill positions such  
25 as substitute teachers;

26                   (3) The enhancement, maintenance, replacement, or repair of heating, ventilation,  
27 and air conditioning systems as may be necessary to reduce the risk of transmission of  
28 COVID-19 inside school facilities, office buildings, correctional facilities, or other indoor spaces  
29 owned or occupied by the District;

30                   (4) Temporary supplemental sick leave or personal pandemic leave for District  
31 employees who are unable to work during a period of quarantine or isolation or while providing  
32 care for family members who must quarantine or isolate; provided, that the availability of such  
33 supplemental sick leave may be restricted to employees who do not have accrued sick leave or  
34 access to banked leave in sufficient amounts; and

35                   (5) Emergency rental assistance and utility assistance to prevent evictions and  
36 utility shutoffs;

37           (b) To the extent that resources are appropriated in the revised budget for Fiscal Year  
38 2022 to support the expenditures listed in subsection (a) of this section, the Mayor may, instead  
39 of including such expenditures in the supplemental budget request, concurrently submit to the  
40 Council a document identifying the applicable funding source and amount or, with respect to

41 subsection (a)(3), certifying the proper functioning of adequate HVAC systems in all District  
42 buildings;

43 (c) It is appropriate to pay for this supplemental budget request from the Fiscal Year 2021  
44 General Fund surplus or from additional Local revenues that have been certified by the Chief  
45 Financial Officer for collection in Fiscal Year 2022;

46 (d) The issuance of high-quality, well-fitting masks to students and school staff and the  
47 proper functioning of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems will complement the  
48 other measures instituted at the direction of the Mayor and Chancellor to support in-person  
49 instruction;

50 (e) The Council supports the initiative of the Mayor and Chancellor to develop and  
51 launch a forthcoming test-to-stay program for District of Columbia Public Schools, and the  
52 Council encourages this program to be applied broadly to all students, teachers, and staff on a  
53 weekly basis or at such other intervals as may be appropriate for future levels of community  
54 spread;

55 (f) The Council expects the Mayor and Chancellor to comply with all District laws,  
56 including the legal requirement of classroom-based notifications following positive tests in  
57 schools, as set forth in section 104 of the Protecting Our Children Emergency Amendment Act of  
58 2021, effective October 25, 2021 (D.C. Act 24-190; D.C. Official Code § 38-971.04) and  
59 reiterated in section 2 of the Returning to School Safely Emergency Act of 2022, passed by the  
60 Council on January 18, 2022 (enrolled version of Bill 24-611);

61 (g) The Council welcomes the actions taken by the Mayor and Interim Director of Human  
62 Resources in promulgating DPM Issuance No. 2022-2, effective December 1, 2021, and the

63 Council supports expanding the availability of personal pandemic leave to employees who must  
64 quarantine or care for family members;

65 (h) The Council applauds the Mayor's efforts to request and partially obtain additional  
66 federal funds for emergency rental and utility assistance, and the Council further supports the use  
67 of additional District funds to prevent evictions and shutoffs; and

68 (i) Consistent with recent budget practice, the Council anticipates receiving a  
69 supplemental budget request for the current fiscal year at the same time as the Mayor's proposed  
70 budget for the next fiscal year, and this resolution is not intended to preclude the Mayor's  
71 supplemental budget request from funding additional expenditures.

72 Sec. 4. The Secretary to the Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its  
73 adoption, to the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer.

74 Sec. 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.