

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize the Transgender Day of Remembrance, to celebrate the resilience of transgender individuals, and to declare Sunday, November 20, 2022, as Transgender Day of Remembrance in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, the government of the District of Columbia has affirmatively and officially recognized the right of transgender people to live openly and freely as their authentic selves, without fear of discrimination or violence, including through the establishment of the “Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Affairs” in 2004 and the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression in 2005;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia nevertheless has a particularly alarming history of violence against transgender individuals including the murders of Zoe Spears, Ashanti Carmon, Deeniquia Dodds, Deoni Jones, Lashai Mclean, Tyli’a Mack, Elexius Woodland, Bella Evangelista, Emonie Spaulding, Stephanie Thomas, Ukea Davis, and too many others;

WHEREAS, bias violence and systemic oppression against transgender people remain unacceptably prevalent, including in the District of Columbia;

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

31 WHEREAS, over the past several years hateful, baseless, and discriminatory rhetoric and
32 actions toward transgender individuals and communities have steadily increased, including new
33 laws in many states targeting transgender people for mistreatment;

34 WHEREAS, transgender people in the District of Columbia have long exhibited incredible
35 resilience and bravery, including by organizing in response to the 1997 death of Tyra Hunter, a
36 Black transgender woman whom District employees refused to treat for life-threatening injuries
37 after determining that she was transgender;

38 WHEREAS, since the 2021 Transgender Day of Remembrance, transgender people in the
39 District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, have continued to die by homicide, including
40 Aaron Lynch and Ariyanna Mitchell, but misgendering by media and police may have obscured
41 additional instances of violence against transgender people in the region;

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

44 WHEREAS, the transgender community and allies in the District of Columbia have
45 commemorated Transgender Day of Remembrance since 2001 and communities and
46 organizations here and around the world will observe the Transgender Day of Remembrance on
47 November 20, 2022.

48 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
49 resolution may be cited as the “Transgender Day of Remembrance Recognition Resolution of
50 2022”.

51 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia declares November 20, 2022, as the
52 Transgender Day of Remembrance in the District of Columbia.

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