

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To honor and recognize the impact that the University of the District of Columbia (“UDC”) has had on the education of Black students, particularly Black women, in Washington, D.C. and across the country, and to celebrate the UDC Homecoming, held from November 6 through November 13, 2022.

WHEREAS, on December 3, 1851, abolitionist Myrtilla Miner founded the Miner Normal School, also known as the “Normal School for Colored Girls,” as a school for African American girls;

WHEREAS, when the school was founded, slavery was still legal in Washington, D.C., and Myrtilla Miner served as a leader in teacher training for free African American women;

WHEREAS, in 1873, Washington Normal School, a white-only school for girls, was established in the District and was eventually renamed the Wilson Normal School in 1913 after D.C.’s first superintendent of public schools James O. Wilson;

WHEREAS, in 1929, through an act of Congress, both the Miner Normal School and the Wilson Normal School were converted into four-year teaching colleges and changed names to the Miner Teachers College and the Wilson Teachers College, respectively;

WHEREAS, for more than a decade, Miner Teachers College and Wilson Teachers College were the only accredited public higher education institutions in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, Miner Teachers College has had an enormous impact in the Black community by educating young African American women to become teachers, many of whom would go on to work at schools across the country, spreading the impact of Miner Teachers College nationwide;

45 WHEREAS, in 1955, one year after the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision,
46 Miner Teachers College and Wilson Teachers College were combined to create the Washington
47 Teachers College;

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49 WHEREAS, in 1966, the District of Columbia Public Education Act was passed, creating
50 the Federal City College and the Washington Technical Institute;

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52 WHEREAS, in 1975, an act of Congress merged the Federal City College and the
53 Washington Technical Institute, creating the University of the District of Columbia;

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55 WHEREAS, today, the University of the District of Columbia offers eighty-one academic
56 degrees in both undergraduate and graduate programs and maintains its place as an important
57 Historically Black College and University by offering an affordable, high-quality education with
58 a focus on the District's Black and brown residents;

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60 WHEREAS, UDC is ranked as the most affordable university in the District and enrolls
61 more D.C. public high school graduates than any other university, highlighting the impact that it
62 continues to have on District residents;

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64 WHEREAS, UDC offers several Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning
65 programs for District residents over the age of 18, with a goal of reducing unemployment and
66 underemployment among District residents, and at no cost to students, including programs in
67 Construction and Property Management, Early Childhood Education, Healthcare Direct Care and
68 Administration, Hospitality and Tourism, and Information Technology and Office
69 Administration; and

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71 WHEREAS, UDC Homecoming is being held from November 6 through November 13,
72 2022, beginning with the Golden Jubilee Celebration to honor the classes of 1970, 1971, and
73 1972, and ending with a Black-Tie Gala to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the UDC National
74 Alumni Society.

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76 **RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,** that this
77 Resolution may be cited as the, "University of the District of Columbia Historic Impact and
78 Homecoming Celebration Ceremonial Resolution of 2022".

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80 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia highlights and recognizes the role that
81 UDC plays in providing educational opportunities and resources to Washington D.C.'s
82 historically disadvantaged communities and celebrates the UDC 2022 Homecoming.

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