



Councilmember Christina Henderson

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A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on an temporary basis, the Youth Employment Act of 1979, to establish a Middle School Career Exploration Pilot program to provide occupational skills, academic enrichment, life skills, career exploration, work readiness or youth development trainings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Middle School Career Exploration Pilot Temporary Amendment Act of 2023.”.

Sec. 2. The Youth Employment Act of 1979, effective January 5, 1980 (D.C. Law 3-46; D.C. Official Code § 32-241 *et seq*) is amended as follows:

(a) Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 32-241) is amended by adding a new paragraph (4A) to read as follows:

“(4A) “Middle School Youth” means an individual who is between the ages of 9 and 13 years old.”.

(b) Section 2a(a) (D.C. Official Code § 32–242(a)) is amended by adding new paragraphs (6) and (7) to read as follows:

“(6)(A) Middle School Career Exploration — The Department of Employment Services (DOES) shall create a summer pilot program for middle school youth that provides occupational skills, academic enrichment, life skills, career exploration, work readiness, or youth development trainings.

33 “(B) DOES may provide an incentive to participants who participate in the
34 summer pilot program.

35 “(C) DOES shall implement the pilot program beginning June 1, 2023.

36 “(D) DOES shall be authorized to spend program funding to provide
37 meals and snacks to participants.

38 “(E) DOES shall administer a survey to participants following the
39 completion of the summer youth pilot.

40 “(F) Upon completion of the summer pilot, DOES shall submit to the
41 Council a report detailing:

42 “(i) The total number of participants who participated in the
43 program;

44 “(ii) The total number of participants who completed the program;

45 “(iii) Partner organizations with whom participants completed their
46 experiences;

47 “(iv) Participants’ demographic data, as available;

48 “(v) Results from the survey administered pursuant to
49 subparagraph (E) of this paragraph.

50 “(7)(A) Middle School Year-Round Career Exploration -- DOES may create an
51 after-school program for middle school youth that provides occupational skills, academic
52 enrichment, life skills, career exploration, work readiness or youth development trainings during
53 the school year.

54 “(B) DOES may provide an incentive to participants who participate in the
55 year-round pilot program.

56 “(C) DOES may implement the year-round pilot program in School Year
57 2023-2024.

58 “(D) DOES shall be authorized to spend program funding to provide
59 meals and snacks to participants.”.

60 Sec. 3. Applicability.

61 This act shall apply as of June 1, 2023.

62 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

63 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as the fiscal
64 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
65 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

66 Sec. 5. Effective date.

67 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor,
68 action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than 90 days,
69 as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section 412(a) of
70 the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788; D.C.
71 Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).