

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY
BROOKE PINTO, CHAIR

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON

B25-112 - Food Regulation Ensures Safety and Hospitality Specialty Training Aids Re-entry Transition and Success (FRESH STARTS) Act of 2023

Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 1:00 PM

Councilmember Pinto's YouTube Page (www.youtube.com/@cmbrookepinto)
DC Council Website (dccouncil.gov)
Council Channel 13 (Cable Television Providers)
Office of Cable Television Website (entertainment.dc.gov)

On Thursday, July 13, 2023, Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Chairperson of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, will hold a hearing on Bill 25-112 - Food Regulation Ensures Safety and Hospitality Specialty Training Aids Re-entry Transition and Success (FRESH STARTS) Act of 2023. The hearing will begin at 1:00 PM and be broadcast live on DC Council Channel 13 and streamed live at www.dccouncil.us, [youtube.com/@cmbrookepinto](https://www.youtube.com/@cmbrookepinto), and entertainment.dc.gov.

Bill 25-112, the Food Regulation Ensures Safety and Hospitality Specialty Training Aids Re-entry Transition and Success (FRESH STARTS) Act of 2023 would enhance requirements for nutrient-dense food served in correctional facilities, direct the Department of Corrections (“DOC”) to adopt and implement Good Food Purchasing Policy standards, and increase oversight of food and nutrition at the DC Jail through regular food service inspections by the Department of Health Food Protection Branch, DOC Safety Officer, and DOC Food Service Contract Manager. The bill would also establish a Healthy Food in D.C. Correctional Facilities Task Force, made up of District agencies, experts, and former residents, to explore and propose additional long-term improvements. Finally, the legislation would require that the Mayor establish a hospitality career training program for residents.

Due to the imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of District residents posed by the spread of the coronavirus, the Council has adapted the methods by which committees may hold public hearings and roundtables to comply with social distancing, large public gatherings, and other public health and safety requirements. Therefore, this public hearing will be held remotely through the Zoom teleconferencing platform.

The Committee invites the public to testify or to submit written testimony, which will be made a part of the official record. Anyone wishing to testify should contact Ms. Aukima Benjamin, Committee Manager to the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, at least 24 hours prior to the start of the hearing at (202) 724-8058 or via e-mail at judiciary@dccouncil.gov; witnesses will receive information on how to join the hearing at that time. Witnesses who anticipate needing language interpretation, or requiring sign language interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee of the need as soon as possible but no later than five business days before the hearing, which is July 6, 2023. We will make every effort to fulfill timely requests; however, requests received in less than five business days may not be fulfilled and alternatives may be offered.

If you are unable to testify at the public hearing, written statements are encouraged and will be made a part of the official record; testimony may be submitted to judiciary@dccouncil.gov. The public may also leave voicemail testimony for the Committees by calling (202) 630-7585, which will be transcribed and made part of the hearing record. Members of the public leaving voicemail testimony should speak slowly and clearly, state their full name and the organization they represent, if any, and note the bill, hearing, or agency that they are submitting testimony on. Members of the public are asked to not provide an e-mail, phone number, or other personal contact information in voicemail testimony.

The record will close at the end of the business day on July 27, 2023.