


**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BROOKE PINTO, WARD 2  
MEMORANDUM**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

---

**TO:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
**FROM:** Councilmember Brooke Pinto   
**RE:** Request to Agendize Measures for the October 3, 2023, Committee of the Whole and Legislative Meetings  
**DATE:** September 27, 2023

I request that the following measure be agendized for the October 3, 2023, Committee of the Whole and Legislative Meetings:

- **Bill 25-42, the “Grounds for Divorce, Legal Separation, and Annulment Amendment Act of 2023”**

The Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety marked up this legislation on September 26, 2023. The legislation makes three changes to the District’s divorce laws. First, it eliminates waiting periods for divorces and legal separations. Second, it adds the history of emotional, physical, or financial abuse by one spouse against the other as a consideration for courts to look at when determining the distribution of property and alimony. Third, it authorizes courts to award exclusive use of a family home as relief during the pendency of divorce proceedings.

The committee print and committee report are attached. If you have any questions, please contact Evan Marolf, Committee Director, at (202) 724-8073 or [emarolf@dccouncil.gov](mailto:emarolf@dccouncil.gov).

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of the General Counsel  
Office of the Budget Director  
Mayor’s Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs