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7 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION
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11 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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15 To recognize the Transgender Day of Remembrance and to celebrate the resilience of transgender
16 individuals and communities, and to declare Monday, November 20, 2023, as Transgender
17 Day of Remembrance in the District of Columbia.
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19 WHEREAS, the government of the District of Columbia has affirmatively and officially
20 recognized the right of transgender people to live authentically and openly without the fear of
21 discrimination or violence, as exemplified by the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of
22 gender identity or expression in 2005;

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

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

29 WHEREAS, incarceration, homelessness, poverty, and addiction have a disproportionate
30 impact on transgender individuals, particularly transgender women of color, and persistently result
31 in loss of lives;

32 WHEREAS, violence against transgender people is fostered by the unprecedented wave of
33 laws across the country that discriminate against, stigmatize, and criminalize transgender people,
34 accompanied by ever-increasing hateful rhetoric against the transgender community;

35 WHEREAS, transgender people and their allies are pushing back against such
36 discriminatory laws, transphobic rhetoric, and hate violence;

37 WHEREAS, transgender people have the same human rights as all people to live free from
38 violence and discrimination, pursuing a life of joy, dignity, and aspirations for the future with
39 respect and love as any other person;

40 WHEREAS, transgender people in the District have long exhibited remarkable resilience
41 and bravery, including the organized response to the 1997 death of Tyra Hunter, a Black
42 transgender woman whom District employees failed to provide the life-saving treatment she
43 needed after determining she was transgender;

44 WHEREAS, since the 2022 Transgender Day of Remembrance, transgender people in the
45 District, and surrounding area, have continued to be murdered, including A’Nee Roberson, Skylar
46 Harrison Reeves, and Jasmine “Star” Parker, while misgendering by media and police may have
47 obscured additional instances of violence against transgender people in the region; and

48 WHEREAS, the transgender community and allies in the District have commemorated
49 Transgender Day of Remembrance since 2001 and communities and organizations here and around
50 the world will observe the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, 2023.

51 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
52 resolution may be cited as the “Transgender Day of Remembrance Recognition Resolution of
53 2023”.

54 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia declares November 20, 2023, as the
55 Transgender Day of Remembrance in the District of Columbia.

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