

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to authorize the Mayor to issue regulations to establish requirements for cleaning and maintenance of District of Columbia hotels and motel rooms, with the exception of certain establishments operating on an “extended stay” model, and to establish standards for public notice of lodging establishment service disruptions.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Hotel Cleaning and Notice of Service Interruption Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023.”

Sec 2. (a) There is an immediate need to re-authorize the Mayor to issue regulations to establish requirements for cleaning and maintenance of District of Columbia hotels and motel rooms and to establish standards for public notice of lodging establishment service disruptions.

Sec. 3. (a) On March 7, 2023, the Council approved the Hotel Enhanced Cleaning and Notice of Service Disruption Temporary Amendment Act of 2023. The temporary act was transmitted to Congress on April 13, 2023, became effective on May 25, 2023, and will expire on January 5, 2024.

(b) During the pandemic, most hotels and motels implemented enhanced cleaning of guest rooms and shared areas to limit the spread of COVID-19. Some hotels and motels, however, suspended or lessened the frequency with which they provided cleaning services leaving staff and patrons at risk of contracting COVID-19.

33           (c) The recovery of the tourism industry is vital to our economic recovery, but some  
34 visitors are surprised that some hotels and motels are not offering daily cleaning services. As we  
35 continue to see a return to pre-pandemic tourism levels, it is imperative for both safety and  
36 consumer protections that guests be provided routine and enhanced housekeeping and  
37 maintenance of communal spaces in hotels and motels unless the guest opts out of cleanings.

38           (d) Lastly, hotel and motel patrons should have the security and assurance of knowing  
39 that the hotel or motel is abiding by its agreement to provide safe, secure, and comfortable  
40 accommodations.

41           (e) In order to mitigate the potential of a gap in the law, which could compromise  
42 compliance with the cleaning requirements, it is necessary to approve emergency legislation.

43           Sec. 4. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances  
44 enumerated in section 3 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Hotel  
45 Cleaning and Notice of Service Interruption Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023 be  
46 approved on an emergency basis.

47           Sec. 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.