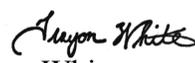


**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY
BROOKE PINTO, CHAIRWOMAN**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson   
FROM: Councilmembers Brooke Pinto, Christina Henderson, and Trayon White
RE: Request to Agendize Emergency Measure for the March 5, 2024 Legislative Meeting
DATE: February 29, 2024

We request that the following emergency measure be agendized for the March 5, 2024 Legislative Meeting:

- **Opioid Crisis and Juvenile Crime Public Emergencies Extension Authorization Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2024**
- **Opioid Crisis and Juvenile Crime Public Emergencies Extension Authorization Emergency Amendment Act of 2024**
- **Opioid Crisis and Juvenile Crime Public Emergencies Extension Authorization Temporary Amendment Act of 2024**

On November 13, 2023, the Mayor issued Order 2023-141, which declared two separate public emergencies in the District—one related to the ongoing opioid crisis, and one related to the ongoing crisis of youth violence in the District. The emergency declarations allowed District agencies to respond more flexibly, cooperatively, and expeditiously to these crises.

Pursuant to amendatory subsection (c-1)(1) of section 2(b) of the Opioid Crisis and Juvenile Crime Public Emergencies Extension Authorization Emergency Amendment Act of 2023, that Mayor's Order could not be extended beyond February 15, 2024, and, absent Council action to extend the Mayor's authority, expired on that date.

Therefore, on February 27, 2024, the Mayor issued Mayor's Order 2024-035, which declared a public emergency regarding the opioid crisis. That declaration of emergency provides District agencies with authority to expedite procurement and the issuance of grants tailored to respond to the public emergency.

However, under District law, the public emergency declaration may not extend beyond 15 days without Council authorization. Without such Council authorization, the enhanced authorities of District agencies will expire on March 13, 2024.

To avoid that outcome, this legislation would authorize the Mayor to extend these emergencies beyond March 13, 2024. The legislation also clarifies the District's public emergency law to clarify the scope of public health circumstances that may warrant the declaration of a public emergency. The legislation includes transparency measures that the Mayor must comply with to exercise the authority granted.

Drafts of the measures are attached. Please contact Evan Marolf, Committee Director, at 724-8073 or emarolf@dccouncil.gov, with any questions.