


**Council of the District of Columbia
COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MEMORANDUM**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

TO: Chairperson Phil Mendelson
FROM: Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie 
RE: Request to Agendize Measures for the December 3, 2024, Legislative Meeting
DATE: November 26, 2024

This memorandum is to request that the following measures be placed on the agenda for the December 3, 2024 Legislative Meeting.

Ceremonial Resolutions

• **Washington Spirit Recognition Resolution of 2024**

To recognize and honor the Washington Spirit for their incredible 2024 season and for their contribution to sports and to the District of Columbia, for setting the standard of excellence, and for paving the way for the growth of women's soccer in the city.

Emergency and Temporary Measures:

- **Cashless Retailer Extension Emergency Amendment Act of 2024**
- **Cashless Retailer Extension Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2024**
- **Cashless Retailer Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2024**

The Cashless Retailers Prohibition Amendment Act of 2020 ("Act") enacted in 2021 with applicability subject to appropriation. As part of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Support Act of 2023 (D.C. Law 25-50), the Council funded the Act. Therefore, beginning on January 1, 2025, a retailer will no longer be able to refuse to accept cash as a form of payment, post signs on the premises that cash payment is not accepted, or charge a higher price to consumers who pay cash.

Retailers in the District continue to be affected by the disruptions to in-person office work, commute patterns, and crime levels that have significantly improved but remain above levels when the original law was enacted. The vast majority of retailers accept cash, and most of those who do not accept it have experienced criminal activity at their establishment. The Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington recently completed a survey of their members finding that 90% of their members accept cash. Of the surveyed members who do not accept cash, all were robbed or

burglarized in the past. This has led to concerns among staff who must carry large sums of cash at night.

An extension of the implementation date for section 28-5402 is necessary as it will cause disruptions to businesses that continue face economic challenges exacerbated by targeted criminal activity against retailers that physically hold cash reserves.

The draft measures are attached. Feel free to contact Daniel Sagrera, Policy Advisor, at dsagrera@dccouncil.gov, with any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia
Office of the Secretary
Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Budget Director