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Councilmember Zachary Parker

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A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to repeal a requirement that the Office of Independent Juvenile Justice Facilities Oversight prepare and report on a plan for the continuance of its operations that has been rendered moot by subsequent Council legislation.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Office of Independent Juvenile Justice Facilities Oversight Plan Emergency Declaration of 2025.”

Sec. 2. (a) In the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget, the Council of the District of Columbia restored funding to the Office of Independent Juvenile Justice Facilities Oversight (“Office”) after the budget for the office had been zeroed out in the Mayor’s proposed budget. To prevent future cuts to the Office’s budget, the Council enacted the Juvenile Justice Facilities Oversight Act of 2024, a subtitle in the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Support Act of 2024 (“BSA”) establishing the Office as a program within the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor (“Auditor”). At the time, this placement was considered to be temporary. As such, the subtitle directed the Office to develop a plan for the continuation of the office’s activities through Fiscal Year 2027 and “present that plan to the Council of the District of Columbia no later than March 1, 2025.”

34 (b) On December 17, 2024, the Council passed on second reading the Recidivism  
35 Reduction at DYRS Amendment Act of 2024, which permanently transfers the functions of the  
36 Office to the Auditor and creates new oversight and compliance responsibilities for the Auditor.  
37 While this legislation is still pending mayoral and congressional approval (as well as funding),  
38 the report mandated by the BSA is moot. The Auditor is already making preparations for the new  
39 scope of work that will be required when the Recidivism Reduction at DYRS Amendment Act of  
40 2024 is implemented.

41 (c) The underlying emergency would strike the requirement that the Office report to the  
42 Council by March 1, 2025 to avoid the unnecessary and wasteful expenditure of staff resources  
43 on a plan and report that is no longer required. This action is required now.

44 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances in  
45 section 2 constitute emergency circumstances, making it necessary that the Office of  
46 Independent Juvenile Justice Facilities Oversight Plan Emergency Act of 2025 be adopted after a  
47 single reading.

48 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.