



Councilmember Brooke Pinto

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1 To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Juvenile Curfew
2 Second Temporary Amendment Act of 2025 and the Volunteer Services Temporary
3 Amendment Act of 2025 to repeal the sunset date and continue the juvenile curfew
4 modifications and curfew zones authority for the Chief of Police and the Mayor.

5
6 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
7 resolution may be cited as the “Juvenile Curfew Sunset Emergency Declaration Resolution of
8 2026”.

9 Sec. 2. (a) The Juvenile Curfew Act of 1995, effective September 20, 1995 (D.C. Law
10 11-48; D.C. Official Code § 2-1541 *et seq.*) (“Juvenile Curfew Act”), was enacted for the
11 protection of minors to prevent violence and crime in the interest of public health, safety, and
12 general welfare.

13 (b) The Juvenile Curfew Act has subsequently been amended multiple times to extend the
14 curfew period, including in the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget Support Emergency Act of 2002,
15 effective July 23, 2002 (D.C. Act 14-453; 49 Stat. 8026), the Enhanced Crime Prevention and
16 Abatement Emergency Amendment Act of 2006, effective July 21, 2006 (D.C. Act 16-446; 53
17 DCR 6477), the Juvenile Curfew Emergency Amendment Act of 2025, effective July 7, 2025
18 (D.C. Act 26-104; 72 DCR 7691) (“Juvenile Curfew Emergency of 2025”), the Juvenile Curfew
19 Second Emergency Amendment Act of 2025, effective November 7, 2025 (D.C. Act 26-0178; 72

20 DCR 7691), and the Juvenile Curfew Second Temporary Amendment Act of 2025 (D.C. Act 26-
21 218; 73 DCR 2681) (“Juvenile Curfew Second Temporary”). The Juvenile Curfew Second
22 Temporary sunsets the juvenile curfew changes on April 15, 2026.

23 (c) Since 2023, the District has seen a rise in concerning behavior by some
24 unaccompanied youth. The District has had numerous instances of large groups of youth
25 engaging in harmful, and at times criminal, conduct in multiple areas around the city, including
26 the Wharf, Navy Yard, and U Street. Multiple fights have broken out and robberies, assaults, and
27 shootings have occurred. According to MPD, these types of gatherings have become increasingly
28 predictable, with young people passing out flyers physically and online indicating that there will
29 be a large gathering or “takeover” on a particular day. While the Metropolitan Police Department
30 (“MPD”) has previously used various methods to address this conduct, including enhanced
31 enforcement of the disturbance of the peace offenses, working with local businesses on signage
32 related to trespassing by unaccompanied minors, and requests for a restricted curfew in the
33 Wharf, these tools proved too limited.

34 (d) However, the Juvenile Curfew Emergency of 2025 and the Juvenile Curfew Second
35 Temporary both allow for the Chief of Police to declare temporary Juvenile Curfew Zones to
36 prevent gatherings of large groups of youth during late evening hours. When this emergency
37 curfew legislation is in place, MPD is able to use information about planned “takeovers” to
38 determine where to designate juvenile curfew zones in an effort to prevent such gatherings from
39 resulting in violence. Without this legislative mechanism, MPD staffing can become strained
40 requiring MPD to pull officers from other neighborhoods when they must respond.

41 (e) Over the last 8 months, during which 17 Juvenile Curfew Zones have been declared,
42 MPD reports that the zones successfully kept groups of youth from gathering in those specific

43 zones during the extended times and kept young people safe. Unfortunately, during a period in
44 October 2025 when the Juvenile Curfew Emergency of 2025 expired, there were several
45 instances of large gatherings of youth—in Navy Yard, Gallery Place, Rhode Island Avenue, and
46 elsewhere—that resulted in fights and robberies — further demonstrating the need for these tools
47 to remain in place. Most recently, the Chief of Police has used this curfew authority to declare
48 zones at the Wharf, Navy Yard, Chinatown, and U Street during the weekend when MPD had
49 indication that there would be large gatherings of young people in each of those locations.
50 Declaring these zones provided MPD with the authority to disperse large groups of young people
51 and be prepared with the proper resources to anticipate large gatherings.

52 (f) The Council previously included a sunset provision in the most recent temporary
53 legislation that would have the provisions in the temporary bill expire on April 15, 2026. April
54 15 is in the middle of DCPS Spring Break and prior to the summer months when the District has,
55 over the last year and a half, seen an increase in youth gathering in large groups that have
56 become violent. After seeing the continued success of the juvenile curfew zones throughout the
57 last 8 months, including last summer when incidents of violence tend to tick upward, the District
58 is seeking continued flexibility in the juvenile curfew to allow MPD to ensure the safety of both
59 young people and the public in order to more nimbly address significant safety concerns.
60 Therefore, it is determined that circumstances exist to continue these measures through the
61 spring and summer to ensure the safety of our young people, District residents, and visitors. By
62 repealing the sunset, these provisions would remain in effect until September 25, 2026.

63 (g) Last summer, the Mayor instituted “Late Night Hype” events to provide positive
64 programming for youth. The Juvenile Curfew Zones must be paired with this type of
65 programming to ensure that young people have positive and productive activities and

66 opportunities, particularly in the evenings. The Executive has committed to additional
67 programming for youth this spring and summer.

68 (h) Therefore, emergency legislation is needed to continue maintaining the safety of
69 young people and the public in the District.

70 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
71 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the
72 Juvenile Curfew Sunset Emergency Amendment Act of 2026 be adopted after a single reading.

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