



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 prevent unauthorized
2 people entering a playing surface at both the Downtown Arena and the Southeast Arena.

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4 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
5 resolution may be cited as the “Arena Safety Conformity Emergency Declaration Resolution of
6 2026”.

7 Sec. 2. Emergency legislation is necessary to prevent unauthorized individuals from
8 entering a playing surface at both the Downtown Arena, commonly known as the Capital One
9 Arena, and the Southeast Arena, commonly known as the CareFirst Arena. On Saturday,
10 February 28, a fan ran onto the court of the Downtown Arena during a Wizards game and
11 disrupted play. Under D.C. Law, it is illegal to run onto the playing field at RFK Stadium,
12 Nationals Park, and Audi Field; however, there is no such law that applies to the Downtown
13 Arena or Southeast Arena. This legislation is necessary to make the law consistent across all
14 professional sports venues in the District.

15 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances in
16 section 2 constitute emergency circumstances, making it necessary that the Arena Safety
17 Emergency Amendment Act of 2026 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.