[Councilmember]



Councilmember Anita Bonds

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES) for the execution of its ongoing mission of providing the necessary tools for the District of Columbia workforce.

WHEREAS, DOES' mandate includes helping job seekers be competitive using tailored approaches and offering training programs and support;

WHEREAS, DOES ensures safe working conditions, advances opportunities for employment, helps employers find qualified workers, and tracks and publishes labor market information and other national economic measurements impacting the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the essential role of the Department of Employment Services in strengthening the District's workforce, expanding employment opportunities and supporting the economic well-being of District residents;

WHEREAS, DOES under the stewardship of Dr. Unique Morris-Hughes is the conduit of United States Department of Labor resources devoted to the administration of employment programs, including services for seniors, veterans, youth, and out-of-school young adults, which we look forward to becoming more robust and increasing participation;

WHEREAS, DOES administers vital employment and workforce development programs that connect job seekers and employers, provides career support and occupational training to help residents develop the skills necessary to compete and grow our economy;

WHEREAS, DOES administers the Unemployment Compensation Fund supporting residents experiencing unemployment and underemployment, and providing an economic safety net in the wake of federal cuts;

WHEREAS, DOES administers the First Source program, ensuring District of Columbia residents receive job opportunities and skills training related to large scale development projects across the city, and therefore the agency is challenged to be more effective in holding contractors that receive government dollars accountable to meeting the D.C. residency requirements;

WHEREAS, for more than fifteen years, DOES has operated Project Empowerment providing more than 700 residents opportunities to grow through education, training, and subsidized employment placements each year, and expects the agency to strengthen this meaningful work opportunity for returning and justice-involved citizens;

WHEREAS, DOES works closely with the Workforce Investment Council administering over $10 million in Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funding annually to support job expansion and job seeker skill alignment;

WHEREAS, DOES administers the Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program, providing engagement and work experience for more than 18,000 youth across the District of Columbia allowing them to accelerate their careers;

WHEREAS, in 2018, DOES launched the District of Columbia Infrastructure Academy training residents for high-demand careers in construction, energy, telecommunications, road work, and water infrastructure, and, in 2026, opened a $73-million-dollar training facility at the former Spingarn High School;

WHEREAS, DOES has administered the Paid Family Leave Program since 2020, which, with contributions from private sector employers, provides Prenatal, Parental, Medical, and Family Leave to those working in the District of Columbia to advance family ties and wellness;

WHEREAS, through its mission of supporting workforce equity, economic opportunity and professional development, DOES engages in job readiness, training programs, and job placement helping residents overcome employment barriers and achieve financial stability; and

WHERAS, Councilmember Anita Bonds wishes to express her sincere appreciation to the Department of Employment Services for its service to D.C. and for its commitment to strengthening the District of Columbia workforce and partnership with the private sector.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Department of Employment Services Recognition Resolution of 2026".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services for its continued dedication to empowering and supporting the workforce of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.