


Councilmember Tommy Wells

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5 A BILL
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9 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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13 Councilmember Tommy Wells introduced the following bill, which was referred to the
14 Committee on _____.
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17 To require the Office of Victim Services to establish and provide for the ongoing operation
18 of a 24-hour toll-free hotline to assist victims and potential victims of domestic
19 violence.
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21 BE IT ENACTED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

22 That this act may be cited as the “Domestic Violence Hotline Establishment Act of 2013”.

23 Sec. 2. The Office of Victim Services shall:

24 (a) Establish and provide a direct toll-free hotline to services for victims and potential
25 victims of domestic violence. This hotline shall:

26 (1) Be directly available to callers, without an intermediary agency;

27 (2) Be available on a 24-hour basis;

28 (3) Provide live assistance to callers;

29 (4) Offer an anonymous reporting feature to enable a victim or a friend of a
30 victim to report an incident without giving their legal name; and

31 (5) Coordinate with the existing domestic violence first responder line to refer
32 victims for crisis intervention.

33 (b) Engage in a public outreach campaign to educate residents about the hotline.

1 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

2 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
3 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,
4 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

5 Sec. 4. Effective date.

6 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by
7 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional
8 review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,
9 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and
10 publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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