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2 Councilmember David Grosso


Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

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6 Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.


Councilmember Elissa Silverman

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9 Councilmember Anita Bonds


Councilmember Charles Allen

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12
13 A BILL
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17 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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21
22 To establish a Public Restroom Facilities Task Force to recommend sites and methods for
23 installing public restrooms and to determine the best method of incentivizing businesses
24 to keep their restrooms open to the general public.

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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
27 act may be cited as the “Open Restroom Facilities Task Force Establishment Act of 2017”.

28 Sec. 2. Establishment of the Open Restroom Facilities Task Force.

29 (a) There is established a Public Restroom Facilities Task Force (“Task Force”) to
30 provide a set of comprehensive policy recommendations on how the District can increase the
31 availability of publicly-available restroom facilities.

32 (b) The Task Force shall include:

- 33 (1) One representative from the Department of Health;
34 (2) One representative from the Department of Human Services;
35 (3) One representative from the District Department of Transportation;

- 36 (4) One representative from the Metropolitan Police Department;
- 37 (5) One representative from the Department of Small and Local Business
- 38 Development;
- 39 (6) One representative from the Department of Public Works;
- 40 (7) One representative from the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority;
- 41 (8) One representative from the Department of Energy and Environment;
- 42 (9) One representative from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and
- 43 Economic Development;
- 44 (10) One representative from the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services;
- 45 (11) One representative from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and
- 46 Human Services;
- 47 (12) One representative from the Interagency Council on Homelessness;
- 48 (13) Three representatives from different organizations with experience providing
- 49 assistance to people experiencing homelessness, to be selected by the Interagency Council on
- 50 Homelessness;
- 51 (14) One representative from an urban planning organization;
- 52 (15) No more than four other stakeholders the Mayor considers crucial to the
- 53 composition of the Task Force, such as representatives from Advisory Neighborhood
- 54 Commissions, Business Improvement Districts, or local citizens or business associations.
- 55 (c) The Mayor shall designate 2 co-chairs of the Task Force, one from the government
- 56 sector and one from the private sector.
- 57 (d) Members of the Task Force shall:
- 58 (1) Serve without compensation; and

59 (2) Be District residents.

60 Sec. 3. Duties of the Open Restroom Facilities Task Force.

61 The Open Restroom Facilities Task Force shall:

62 (1) Identify and study initiatives both in other U.S. cities and in other major world
63 cities that could serve as a model for a District program to:

64 (A) Provide restroom facilities for free or for a nominal cost at all hours;

65 (B) Incentivize businesses to keep their restrooms open to the public; or

66 (C) Increase access to existing restroom facilities for certain individuals

67 with urgent restroom needs, such as people with a disability or pregnant women;

68 (2) Identify locations in the District that would be best served by public restroom
69 facilities, paying particular attention to:

70 (A) Pedestrian traffic in the area;

71 (B) Access for people experiencing homelessness;

72 (C) Availability of existing public restroom facilities;

73 (D) Concern for increased illicit or undesirable activities; and

74 (E) Support from nearby property owners;

75 (3) Identify public restroom design criteria to:

76 (A) Promote usage;

77 (B) Disincentivize use of the facilities for illicit activities;

78 (C) Minimize total costs;

79 (D) Ensure public approval; and

80 (E) Avoid collateral concerns such as broken mirrors, graffiti, and washing

81 clothes in sinks.

82 (4) Examine all cost-related factors associated with the programs, including:
83 (A) Purchase price of public restroom facilities;
84 (B) Transportation, installation, and maintenance costs for public restroom
85 facilities;
86 (C) Necessary financial incentives to encourage local businesses to keep
87 their existing restroom facilities open to the public; and
88 (D) Any anticipated cost-savings such as from reduced cleaning or
89 enforcement costs associated with public urination or defecation;
90 (5) Identify and recommend models for private and public funding, including
91 partnership opportunities or advertising options; and
92 (6) Within 180 days of the effective date of this act, submit to the Mayor and the
93 Council a comprehensive report on increasing the number of public restroom facilities,
94 incentivizing local businesses to keep their restrooms open to the public, and providing better
95 access to people with unique restroom needs, such as pregnant women and the elderly. The
96 report shall also include recommendations on:
97 (A) Legislation;
98 (B) Policy initiatives;
99 (C) Funding requirements;
100 (D) Budgetary priorities;
101 (E) Locations for installing public restrooms;
102 (F) Appropriate incentives for local businesses based on the varying types
103 and availability of restroom facilities; and

104 (G) Any other needs for an expeditious startup and the long-term, effective
105 provision of restrooms in the District for free or a nominal cost.

106 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

107 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
108 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
109 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

110 Sec. 5. Effective date.

111 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
112 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
113 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
114 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
115 Columbia Register.

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