



1 
2 Councilmember David Grosso


Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau


Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

10 A BILL

13 _____
14 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
16 _____

19 To amend the Access to Justice Initiative Establishment Act of 2010 to create a separate civil
20 immigration legal services program that serves the District’s documented and
21 undocumented immigrant residents, and to require that funding for civil immigration
22 legal services to the District’s documented and undocumented immigrant residents be
23 used for that purpose.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
26 act may be cited as the “Access to Justice for Immigrants Amendment Act of 2017”.

27 Sec. 2. The Access to Justice Initiative Establishment Act of 2010, effective September
28 14, 2011 (D.C. Law 19-21; D.C. Official Code § 4-1701.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

29 (a) Section 101 (D.C. Official Code § 4-1701.01) is amended by adding a new paragraph
30 (5A) to read as follows:

31 “(5A) “ATJ-I” means Access to Justice Grant funding appropriated for civil
32 immigration legal services.”.

33 (b) Section 201(a) (D.C. Official Code § 4-1702.01(a)) is amended to read as follows:

34 “(a) The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice shall establish an
35 Access to Justice Initiative program, which shall consist of the ATJ, ATJ-I, and LRAP programs,
36 for the purpose of providing:

37 “(1) Support to nonprofit organizations that deliver civil legal services to low-
38 income and under-served District residents;

39 “(2) Support to nonprofit organizations that deliver civil immigration legal
40 services to the District’s documented and undocumented immigrant residents; and

41 “(3) Loan-repayment assistance to lawyers working in eligible employment.”.

42 (c) Section 202(a) (D.C. Official Code § 4-1702.02(a)) is amended by striking the phrase
43 “ATJ program” wherever it appears and inserting the phrase “ATJ and ATJ-I programs” in its
44 place.

45 (d) Section 301 (D.C. Official Code § 4-1703.01) is amended as follows:

46 (1) The section heading is amended by striking the word “ATJ” and inserting the
47 phrase “ATJ and ATJ-I” in its place.

48 (2) Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

49 “(a) The Deputy Mayor shall award a grant each year from the budget of the Initiative to
50 the Bar Foundation for the purpose of the Bar Foundation providing support to non-profit
51 organizations that deliver civil legal services to low-income and under-served District residents,
52 including funds for a shared legal interpreter bank, or facilitate or deliver civil immigration legal
53 services to the District’s documented and undocumented immigrant residents. Payment of the
54 award shall be submitted by October 15th of each fiscal year in the amount specified in an act of
55 the Council. The grant shall equal the total budget for ATJ and ATJ-I.”.

56 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

60 Sec. 4. Effective date.

61 This act shall take effect after approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by
62 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review
63 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
64 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
65 Columbia Register.