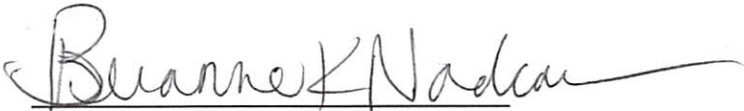


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Councilmember Brianne Nadeau



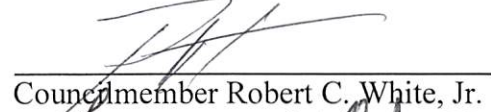
Councilmember Elissa Silverman



Councilmember Jack Evans




Councilmember Brandon T. Todd



Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.



Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.



Councilmember Anita Bonds

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To establish a Commission on African American History and Culture in the Mayor's Office on African American Affairs to preserve the rich cultural heritage that African Americans have made to the District and the United States, organize and plan programming and events related to African American history, and promote the teaching of African American history in the District's schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Commission on African American History and Culture Establishment Act of 2017".

Sec. 2. Commission on African American History and Culture; establishment, organization, members, duties, meeting.

(a) There is established a Commission on African American History and Culture ("Commission") in the Mayor's Office on African American Affairs ("MOAAA") to preserve the rich cultural heritage that African Americans have made to the District and the United States, organize and plan programming and events related to African American history, and promote the teaching of African American history in the District's schools year long.

- 37 (b) The Commission will be tasked with the duty to:
- 38 (1) Collect materials pertaining to African American history;
- 39 (2) Encourage research in the District’s African American history;
- 40 (3) Educate District residents and visitors on the significance of the African
41 American experience in the District;
- 42 (4) Cooperate with the Office of the State Superintendent of Education
43 (“OSSE”) to develop materials that support the teaching of African American history in District
44 public and charter schools;
- 45 (5) Partner with local groups, churches, and museums to create year round
46 programming;
- 47 (6) Provide grants that provide for African American historic preservation and
48 public programming projects in the District;
- 49 (7) Collaborate with the Emancipation Commemoration Commission to
50 promote, plan and organize activities and programming celebrating April 16, DC Emancipation
51 Day;
- 52 (8) Plan and organize a month-long program of events to celebrate our
53 nation’s black heritage each February in the District, to include lectures, art exhibits, a food
54 tasting event, a concert, and a gala; and
- 55 (9) Plan and organize a Juneteenth event each June in the District.

56 (b) The Commission shall be composed of 9 members nominated by the Mayor and
57 subject to the consent of the Council in accordance with section 2(f) of the Confirmation Act of
58 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(f). Members

59 shall be appointed with due consideration from established public, nonprofit, and volunteer
60 community organizations; prominent business and community leaders; and individuals who have
61 shown dedication and knowledge of African American history.

62 (c) Members of the Commission shall be residents of the District.

63 (d) Members shall be appointed to serve terms of 3 years and shall serve until their
64 successors are appointed. A member of the Commission may be reappointed and may serve no
65 more than 3 consecutive terms.

66 (e) Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Commission, the Mayor shall, within 90
67 working days of the vacancy, appoint a successor to fill the unexpired portion of the term.

68 (f) The Mayor shall designate, from among the members appointed, the Chairman,
69 who shall serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Mayor.

70 (g) All members of the Commission shall serve without compensation except that
71 expenses incurred by the Commission as a whole, or by a group of its members, shall become an
72 obligation against appropriated District funds designated for that purpose.

73 (h) The Mayor may remove, after notice and hearing, any member of the Commission
74 for neglect of duty, incompetence, misconduct or malfeasance in office.

75 (i) The Commission shall work with, and seek the constant input and advice from the
76 Director of MOAAA.

77 (j) The Commission shall be responsible for working with District government
78 agencies to promote inter-agency collaboration, problem-solving and cooperation.

79 (k) The Commission shall develop its own rules and procedures.

80 Sec. 3. Requirements for award of grants.

81 (a) The Office shall develop rules to govern the awarding of grants; provided, that grants
82 shall be administered pursuant to the requirements set forth in part B of subchapter XII-A of
83 Chapter 3 of Title 1 (D.C. Law 1-86; D.C. Code§ 1-328.11 et seq.).

84 (b) On or before December 1 of each year, the Office shall submit an annual status report
85 to the Council for all grants.

86 Sec. 4. Commission on African American History and Culture Fund; establishment;
87 accounting; investment.

88 (a) There is established the non-lapsing African American History and Culture Fund
89 (“Fund”) which shall be administered by the Director of MOAAA and which shall be used by the
90 Commission to provide support for African American historic preservation and public
91 programming projects in the District.

92 (b) There shall be deposited into the Fund:

- 93 (1) An annual budget allocation;
- 94 (2) Interest earned on money deposited into the Fund;
- 95 (3) Private donations, gifts, and grants;
- 96 (4) Federal grants or other funding; and
- 97 (5) Proceeds of the sale of services provided by the Office or the Commission.

98 (c) The money deposited into the Fund, and any interest earned, shall not revert to the
99 unrestricted fund balance of the General Fund of the District of Columbia at the end of a fiscal
100 year, or at any other time. Subject to Authorization in an approved budget and financial plan, any
101 funds appropriated in the Fund shall be continually available without regard to fiscal year
102 limitation.

103 (d) By December 1st of each year, the Office shall publish in the District of Columbia
104 Register and in a report submitted to the Council, a specific accounting of how monies in the
105 Fund were expended and any remaining balance. The accounting shall include the following:

106 (1) The name of any donors or anonymous contributions;

107 (2) The amounts of each contribution;

108 (3) A description of any donated property; and

109 (4) Identification of the programs where the funds have been expended.

110 (e) Proceeds in the Fund may be invested in a prudent and reasonable manner consistent
111 with applicable District government policies and procedures.

112 (f) The Fund shall be audited annually.

113 Sec. 5. Fiscal impact statement.

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

117 Sec. 6. Effective date.

118 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
119 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
120 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
121 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
122 Columbia Register.

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