

1 Brianne K Nadeau

2 Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

Elissa Silverman

Councilmember Elissa Silverman

7 David Grosso

8 Councilmember David Grosso

Robert C. White, Jr.

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

11 Mary M. Cheh

12 Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

Anita Bonds

Councilmember Anita Bonds

17 Brandon T. Todd

18 Councilmember Brandon T. Todd

25 A BILL

31 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

36 To amend the Community Residential Facilities Third-Party Notice of Utility Disconnection
37 Requirement Act of 2018 to require a utility company to include tenant assistance
38 recipients in its third party notification program; and to amend the District of Columbia
39 Housing Authority Act of 1999 to require recipients of tenant-based housing assistance to
40 enroll in a utility's third-party enrollment program and to and designate the Housing
41 Authority to receive duplicate notification of certain past-due bills or terminations of
42 service sent to the tenant.

44 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
45 act may be cited as the "Housing Voucher Utility Disconnection Amendment Act of 2019".

46 Sec. 2. The Community Residential Facilities Third-Party Notice of Utility
47 Disconnection Requirement Act of 2018, effective June 5, 2018 (D.C. Law 22-104; D.C. Official
48 Code §34-411.01 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

49 (a) Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 34-411.01) is amended by adding a new paragraph
50 (6A) to read as follows:

51 “(6A) “Tenant assistance recipient” means any District resident who receives monthly
52 housing payment assistance pursuant to section 26c of the District of Columbia Housing
53 Authority Act of 1999, effective March 2, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-192; D.C. Official Code § 6-
54 228).”.

55 (b) Section 3(b) (D.C. Official Code § 34-411.02(b)) is amended as follows:

56 (1) A new paragraph (1-A) is added to read as follows:

57 “(1-A) A utility company shall send to the District of Columbia Housing
58 Authority a duplicate of any notification of a utility bill that has been past due for 90 days or
59 more and any notification of termination of service because of a past due bill that it sends to a
60 tenant assistance recipient enrolled in the third party notification program no more than 2 days
61 after the notification was sent to the tenant assistance recipient.”.

62 (2) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the phrase “paragraph (1)” and inserting
63 the phrase “paragraphs (1) and (2)” in its place.

64 Sec. 3 The District of Columbia Housing Authority Act of 1999, effective May 9, 2000
65 (D.C. Law 13-105; D. C. Official Code § 6-201 *et seq.*), is amended by adding a new section 26h
66 to read as follows:

67 Sec. 26h. Third-Party Notice of Utility Disconnection for Recipients of Tenant-Based
68 Assistance.

69 “(a) Each tenant assistance recipient shall enroll in the third-party notification program of
70 each utility company that provides water, natural gas, or electricity to the tenant’s unit and
71 designate the Housing Authority as the tenant’s third-party contact.

72 (b) Upon receipt of notification of a past due utility bill from a utility company, the
73 Housing Authority shall contact the tenant assistance recipient and provide the individual with
74 information about relevant payment assistance programs that may assist the tenant in paying the
75 utility bill.

76 (c) For the purposes of this section, the terms “tenant assistance recipient”, “third-party
77 contact”, “third-party notification program”, and “utility company” shall have the same meaning
78 as provided in section 2(6A) through (9) of the Community Residential Facilities Third-Party
79 Notice of Utility Disconnection Requirement Act of 2018, effective June 5, 2018 (D.C. Law 22-
80 104; D.C. Official Code §34-411.01(6A)-(9)), respectively.”.

81 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

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

85 Sec. 5. Effective date.

86 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
87 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
88 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
89 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)) and publication in the District of
90 Columbia Register.