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2 Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

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6 Councilmember Brandon T. Todd

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12 Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

Vincent C. Gray
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A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To establish an Office on Caribbean Affairs to monitor the delivery of services and make policy recommendations to the Mayor and Council regarding housing, health, education, employment, social services, public safety, business opportunities and cultural heritage preservation for the District's Caribbean community.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Office on Caribbean Affairs Establishment Act of 2019".

Sec. 2. Establishment of the Office on Caribbean Affairs.

(a) There is established an Office on Caribbean Affairs ("OCA") for the purpose of monitoring service delivery and making policy recommendations to the Mayor and Council regarding housing, health, education, employment, social services, public safety, and business opportunities for the Caribbean community of the District.

(b) OCA shall be headed by an Executive Director, who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council pursuant to section 2(a) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(a)). The

MT. TNS

James C. Davis

James C. Davis

1 Executive Director shall be a full-time position, for which annual compensation shall be fixed in
2 accordance with Title X-A of the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit
3 Personnel Act of 1978, effective June 10, 1998 (D.C. Law 12-124; D.C. Official Code § 1-
4 610.51 *et seq.*). The Executive Director shall have such staff as is appropriated in an approved
5 budget or provided through federal or private grants.

6 Sec. 3. Duties of the Executive Director.

7 (a) The Executive Director shall:

8 (1) Serve as an advocate for the Caribbean community's needs in the District, as
9 those needs relate to housing, health, education, employment, social services, public safety, and
10 expanding business opportunities;

11 (2) Assist community organizations in developing and submitting grant
12 applications;

13 (3) Provide information and technical assistance on programs and services to the
14 African American community to the Mayor, the Council, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions,
15 other District government agencies, and the community;

16 (4) Respond to recommendations and policy statements from the Mayor's
17 Advisory Commission on Caribbean Community Affairs ("MACCCA");

18 (5) File with the Mayor and the Council, no later than December 31 annually, an
19 annual report on the operations of OCA based on the previous fiscal year;

20 (6) Identify areas for service improvement and make recommendations to the
21 Mayor and MACCCA for improving services; and

22 (7) Ensure the necessary control, evaluation, audit, and reporting on programs
23 funded through OCA.

1 (b) The Executive Director may:

2 (1) Accept volunteer services and funds from the public and private sectors to
3 supplement the budget of OCA in carrying out its planning duties and responsibilities;

4 (2) Apply for, receive, and expend gifts or grants of money to carry out the duties
5 and responsibilities of OCA; and

6 (3) Issue grants to organizations that provide housing, education, health,
7 workforce development, employment, criminal justice reform, and economic opportunity-related
8 services to the District's Caribbean residents; provided, that grants shall be administered
9 pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Grant Administration Act of 2013, effective
10 December 24, 2013 (D.C. Law 20-61; D.C. Official Code § 1-328.11 *et seq.*).

11 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

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

15 Sec. 5. Effective date.

16 The act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
17 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
18 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
19 24, 1973, (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
20 Columbia Register.