



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

January 13, 2021

Enclosed for consideration by the Council of the District of Columbia is the "Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Emergency Amendment Act of 2021," the "Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2021", and the "Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021."

The purpose of this legislation is to designate the primary purpose of the fusion center within the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) and to designate HSEMA as a law enforcement agency, and the fusion center as a law enforcement unit, for the purposes of carrying out the fusion center functions, including receiving, analyzing, handling, and sharing criminal history record information and law enforcement intelligence information.

This legislation will support the fusion center's functions by providing important access to information that is critical to support District, regional, and federal law enforcement and criminal justice agencies and protecting District residents and the public safety.


I look forward to the Council's favorable consideration of this contract.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser", written over the printed name.

Muriel Bowser

Enclosure


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

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5 A BILL
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9 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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13 To amend, on an emergency basis, An Act To authorize the District of Columbia government to
14 establish an Office of Civil Defense, and for other purposes, to formalize the
15 establishment of the fusion center within the Homeland Security and Emergency
16 Management Agency, to designate the primary mission of the fusion center, and to
17 designate the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and the fusion
18 center as law enforcement entities for the purpose of carrying out the mission of the
19 fusion center.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
22 act may be cited as the “Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority
23 Emergency Amendment Act of 2021”.

24 Sec. 2. An Act To authorize the District of Columbia government to establish an Office
25 of Civil Defense, and for other purposes, approved August 11, 1950 (64 Stat. 439; D.C. Official
26 Code § 7-2201 *et seq.*), is amended by adding a new section 3a to read as follows:

27 “Sec. 3a. Fusion center.

28 “(a) The Director of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency shall,
29 subject to the direction and control of the Mayor, establish a fusion center for the District within
30 HSEMA. The fusion center for the District may, at the discretion of the Mayor and the Director
31 of HSEMA, also serve as the primary fusion center in the National Capital Region.”

32 “(b) The primary mission of the fusion center of the District is to receive and coordinate
33 and facilitate the sharing of resources, expertise, and information, including criminal history

1 record information and law enforcement intelligence information, among law enforcement, first
2 responder, and criminal justice agencies, and to coordinate and integrate information from such
3 agencies, with the goal of detecting and preventing criminal and terrorist activity, such as
4 criminal conspiracy, bomb threats, possession of illegal firearms and explosives, identity theft,
5 money laundering, burglary, and organized crime, and for the purpose of investigating and
6 responding to such activity.”

7 “(c) The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency is designated a law
8 enforcement agency, and the fusion center is designated a law enforcement unit, for the purposes
9 of carrying out the functions set forth in subsection (b) of this section and for the purposes of
10 receiving, analyzing, handling, and sharing criminal history record information and law
11 enforcement intelligence information”.

12 “(d) The fusion center of the District shall work in partnership with other state, local,
13 regional, and federal fusion centers and with other state, local, regional, and federal law
14 enforcement, criminal justice, and intelligence agencies.”

15 “(e) The fusion center of the District shall represent the District’s interests in the national
16 network of fusion centers.”.

17 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

18 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as the fiscal
19 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
20 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

21 Sec. 4. Effective date.

22 The act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
23 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than

- 1 90 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section
- 2 412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813;
- 3 D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).