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Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

A BILL

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To amend An Act to provide for compulsory school attendance to clarify daily attendance as being present 60 percent of the full instructional day and to allow a verified delay in public transportation that is no more than 10 percent of the instructional day as a valid excused absence.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “School Attendance Amendment Act of 2021”.

Sec. 2. An Act to provide for compulsory school attendance, for the taking of a school census in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, approved February 4, 1925 (43 Stat. 806; D.C. Official Code § 38-202 (a)), is amended by adding a new paragraph (a-1) to read as follows:

“(a-1) Required daily attendance shall consist of a student being physically in attendance at the education institution for scheduled periods of actual instruction in which he or she is enrolled and registered for at least 60 percent of the full instructional day, or in attendance at a school-approved activity that constitutes part of the school program for that student.

Sec. 3. An Act to provide for compulsory school attendance, for the taking of a school census in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, approved February 4, 1925 (43 Stat. 806; D.C. Official Code § 38-203(c)), is amended by adding a new subparagraph (c)(3) to read as follows:

31                   “(c)(3) A valid excuse for a minor is a verified delay of public transportation that  
32 does exceed 10 percent of the instructional day.”

33                   Sec. 4. Fiscal Impact statement.

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

37                   Sec. 5. Effective Date.

38                   This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
39 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as  
40 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
41 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.2(c)(1)); and publication in the District of  
42 Columbia.

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