

## COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BROOKE PINTO THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING 1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 106 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

September 18, 2023

Nyasha Smith, Secretary Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20004

Dear Secretary Smith,

Today, I, along with Councilmembers Christina Henderson, Robert White, Charles Allen, Vincent Gray, Matt Frumin, Janeese Lewis George, and Anita Bonds am introducing the "Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee Establishment Act of 2023." Please find enclosed a signed copy of the legislation.

With the death of Jasmine "Star" Mack on January 7, 2023, the District marked a grim milestone: the first transgender person in the country to be violently killed in 2023 lived and died in D.C.<sup>1</sup> Despite transgender and gender-diverse people only making up approximately 1.6 million of the population<sup>2</sup> in the United States, mortality, fatality, and morbidity trends for this group compared to cisgender people are disproportionately high.<sup>3</sup> Although data are limited, some studies suggest that transgender people are "twice as likely to die as cisgender people" due to "heart disease, lung cancer, HIV-related illness and suicide," with trans women being "two times as likely to die" compared to cis men and "three times as likely" compared to cis women.<sup>4</sup> Trans women in particular are disproportionately vulnerable to the aforementioned risks, as well as to violence and murder, with one in four trans women likely to be victimized by a hate-related crime.<sup>5</sup> Meanwhile, trans women of color are even more overrepresented as victims of violence and murder.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Casey Parks and Jenna Portnoy, *Transgender woman killed in in D.C. 'just wanted a chance at life'*, Washington Post (Jan. 15, 2023), <u>available here.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Williams Institute, *Transgender People*, <u>available here</u>. "Trans" covers any and all individuals whose gender identity or expression differs from the sex/gender assigned at birth, irrespective of medical, hormonal, or surgical intervention. "Mortality" here denotes death by natural or accidental causes; "fatality" denotes death by homicide or suicide. *See also* LGBT Mortality Project, *Resources*, <u>available here</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cf. Sarah S. Jackson, et al. Analysis of Mortality Among Transgender and Gender Diverse Adults in England, JAMA Netw Open (Jan. 3, 2023); 6(1):e2253687. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.53687. PMID: 36716027; PMCID: PMC9887492, available here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Robert Hart, *Transgender People Twice As Likely To Die As Cisgender People*, *Study Finds*, Forbes (Sep. 2, 2021), available here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cf. Williams Institute, Gender Identity Disparities in Criminal Victimization, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2017-2018, available here. Hannah Schoenbaum, Report says at least 32 transgender people were killed in the U.S. in 2022, PBS News Hour (Nov. 16, 2022), available here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review, *America's War on Black Trans Women* (Sep. 23, 2020), <u>available here</u>; Faith Karimi, *Deadly attacks on Black trans women are going up, advocacy group says*, CNN (Jun. 13, 2021),

Transgender fatalities from violence have continued to rise in recent years, making the need for policy intervention especially urgent.<sup>7</sup>

All of this suggests that trans and gender-diverse people may face particular vulnerabilities that cisgender people do not. There is thus an urgent need for more information about trans and gender-diverse people's lives and deaths, so that the District can properly support health outcomes for this constituency.

To facilitate this important work, this legislation would establish a Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee. This Committee would complement the District's existing mortality and fatality review committees administered by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner ("OCME"). The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee would consist of representatives from OCME and other relevant District agencies; representatives from District hospitals, transgender and gender-diverse advocacy organizations, housing organizations, healthcare providers, researchers from a college or university within the District conducting research in this area, and social workers specializing in transgender and gender-diverse issues. The Committee would be tasked with identifying and characterizing the scope and nature of transgender mortalities and fatalities; recording trends; conducting retrospective socioeconomic analyses; and working to develop policy recommendations.

The establishment of this Committee will continue the District's leading role in LGBTQIA+ advocacy and legislation. The Committee will be the first entity of its kind in the United States. It will contribute important data and analysis and provide important resources for the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention and for transgender and gender-diverse people across the country and inform future strategies and interventions to drive down the disparate outcomes we are currently seeing with our transgender and gender-diverse residents.

Should you have any questions about this legislation, please contact Michael Porcello, Committee Director for the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, at <a href="mailto:mporcello@dccouncil.gov">mporcello@dccouncil.gov</a>.

Thank you,

**Brooke Pinto** 

BE PIA

<u>available here</u>; Trudy Ring, *Here Are the 57 Trans Americans Killed in 2021*, Advocate (May 5, 2022), <u>available here</u>; Laken Brooks, *2021 Has Been A Deadly Year for Transgender People* (Nov. 14, 2021), <u>available here</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Human Rights Campaign, Fatal Violence Against the Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Community in 2021, <u>available here</u>; Orion Rummler and Kate Sosin, 2021 is now the deadliest year on record for transgender people, PBS News Hour (Nov. 18, 2021), <u>available here</u>.

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| 2                          | Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.   | Councilmember Brooke Pinto          |
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| 6                          | Councilmember Anita Bonds  | Councilmember Christina Henderson   |
| 7<br>8<br>9                | Councilmember Vincent C. Gray  | Councilmember Charles Allen         |
| 11<br>12<br>13<br>14       | Janese Lewis George Councilmember Janeese Lewis George   | Councilmember Matthew Frumin        |
| 6                          |  |                                     |
| 7                          |  |                                     |
| 8                          | A BILL   |                                     |
| 9                          |  | <u> </u>                            |
| 20                         |  |                                     |
| 21                         | IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DIS  | TRICT OF COLUMBIA                   |
| 23                         | IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DIS  | TRICT OF COLUMBIA                   |
| 22<br>23<br>24<br>25<br>26 |  |                                     |
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| 27                         |  |                                     |
| 28<br>29                   | To establish a Transgender and Gender-Diverse Morthe Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to of the |                                     |
| 30                         | transgender and gender diverse mortalities an  |                                     |
| 31                         | that occur in the District, to identify and chara  |                                     |
| 32                         | and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities, t   | <u> </u>                            |
| 33                         | patterns that are observed surrounding transge   |                                     |
| 34                         | fatalities, to create a strategic framework for i  |                                     |
| 35                         | health outcomes for racial and ethnic minoriti   | <del>_</del>                        |
| 36                         | improve the identification, investigation, and   | <u> </u>                            |
| 37                         | diverse mortalities and fatalities, and to make  | - ·                                 |
| 38<br>39                   | findings, recommendations, and steps taken to  | o evaluate implementation of past   |
| 10                         | recommendations.   |                                     |
| 11                         | BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF T  | THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this |
| 12                         | act may be cited as the "Transgender and Gender-Div  | verse Mortality and Fatality Review |
| 13                         | Committee Establishment Amendment Act of 2023".  |                                     |

| 44 | Sec. 2. Definitions.  |
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| 45 | For purposes of this act, the term:   |
| 46 | (1) "Cisgender" shall have the same meaning as provided in D.C. Official Code §                           |
| 47 | 1-607.61(1).  |
| 48 | (2) "Committee" means the Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and                                    |
| 49 | Fatality Review Committee.  |
| 50 | (3) "Documentation memorializing transgender or gender-diverse status" means                              |
| 51 | documentation that memorialize a decedent's gender transition, and may include:                           |
| 52 | (A) A written statement by the decedent self-identifying as transgender,                                  |
| 53 | gender-diverse, or not cisgender;   |
| 54 | (B) Documentation of a change to the decedent's gender marker on a  |
| 55 | certificate of birth, driver's license or state identification card, social security record, or passport; |
| 56 | (C) A court order approving a name or gender change; or   |
| 57 | (D) A statement, signed under the penalty of law, by a licensed healthcare                                |
| 58 | provider or licensed mental healthcare provider who treated or evaluated the decedent, stating            |
| 59 | that the decedent underwent surgical, hormonal, or other treatment appropriate for the decedent           |
| 60 | for the purpose of gender-affirming care, based on contemporary medical standards.                        |
| 61 | (4) "Gender-affirming care" shall have the same meaning as provided in section                            |
| 62 | 102(12A) of the Human Rights Act of 1977, effective December 13, 1977 (D.C. Law 2-38; D.C.                |
| 63 | Official Code § 2-1401.02(12A)).  |
| 64 | (5) "Gender-diverse" means a person whose gender identity or expression is at                             |
| 65 | odds with what is perceived as being the gender norm in a particular context at a particular point        |
| 66 | in time, including those who do not place themselves in a gender or sex binary. This includes             |
|    |   |

67 non-binary individuals as defined in D.C. Official Code § 1-607.61(3) and individuals who 68 identify as not cisgender. 69 (6) "Gender identity or expression" shall have the same meaning as provided 70 in section 102(12A-i) of the Human Rights Act of 1977, effective December 13, 1977 (D.C. Law 71 2-38; D.C. Official Code § 2-1401.02(12A)). 72 (7) "Personally identifiable information" shall have the same meaning as provided 73 in D.C. Official Code § 7-231.01(42) and shall also include documentation memorializing 74 transgender and gender-diverse status as defined in this chapter. 75 (5) "Transgender" shall have the same meaning as provided in D.C. Official Code § 76 1-607.61(4). 77 (6) "Transgender and gender-diverse fatality" means the death of a transgender, 78 gender-diverse, or not cisgender person by a homicide or suicide. 79 (7) "Transgender and gender-diverse mortality" means the death of a transgender, 80 gender-diverse, or not cisgender person by accident or nature. 81 Sec. 3. Establishment and duties. 82 (a) There is established a Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review 83 Committee ("Committee") within the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner ("OCME"). The 84 OCME shall provide facilities, staffing, and other administrative support for the Committee. 85 (b) The Committee shall evaluate transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and 86 fatalities, including associated factors: 87 (1) That occur in the District; and 88 (2) Of District residents, regardless of the place of death.

(c) The Committee's duties shall include:

- (1) Identifying and characterizing the scope and nature of transgender and genderdiverse mortalities and fatalities in the District and of District residents;
- (2) Coordinating with other District mortality and fatality review entities to minimize duplicate mortality and fatality case review;

- (3) Describing and recording any trends, data, or patterns that are observed surrounding transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities;
- (4) Examining past events and circumstances surrounding transgender and gender-diverse mortalities by reviewing records and other pertinent documents of public agencies and private entities responsible for investigating transgender and gender-diverse mortalities or treating transgender and gender-diverse persons;
- (5) Performing retrospective review of socioeconomic determinant risk and protective factors surrounding transgender and gender-diverse fatalities in the District;
- (6) Developing and revising, as necessary, operating rules and procedures for review of transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities, including identification of cases to be reviewed, coordination among the agencies and professionals involved, and improvement of the identification, data collection, and record keeping of the causes of transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities;
- (7) Recommending systemic improvements to promote improved and integrated public and private systems serving transgender and gender-diverse people in the District, including improved interagency coordination;
- (8) Recommending systemic improvements to prevent and respond to transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities;

| 112 | (9) Recommending policies for improved access to employment, healthcare,                            |
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| 113 | mental healthcare, housing, and educational programs for transgender and gender-diverse             |
| 114 | residents;  |
| 115 | (10) Creating a strategic framework for improving transgender and gender-diverse                    |
| 116 | health outcomes for racial and ethnic minorities in the District, including reducing disparities in |
| 117 | transgender morality and fatality rates for racial and ethnic minorities;                           |
| 118 | (11) Recommending training for providers who treat transgender and gender-                          |
| 119 | diverse health patients to improve the identification, investigation, and prevention of transgender |
| 120 | and gender-diverse mortalities and, in the case of fatalities, recommending training to improve     |
| 121 | the prevention of transgender and gender-diverse fatalities and to identify risk factors and        |
| 122 | develop protective factors in the individual, family, and community response to violence.           |
| 123 | (d)(1) By July 1 of each year, the Committee shall make publicly available and submit to            |
| 124 | the Council and Mayor an annual report of its findings, recommendations, and steps taken to         |
| 125 | evaluate the implementation of past recommendations, which includes the following                   |
| 126 | information:  |
| 127 | (A) A description of the causes and contributing factors to the transgender                         |
| 128 | and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities the Committee reviewed during the preceding           |
| 129 | calendar year;  |
| 130 | (B) A description of the state of transgender and gender-diverse health and                         |
| 131 | transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities in the District, including statistics and |

causes of transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and fatalities; and

| 133 | (C) Recommendations for systemic changes and legislation relating to the                          |
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| 134 | delivery of transgender and gender-diverse health care in the District and the prevention of      |
| 135 | transgender mortalities and fatalities.   |
| 136 | (2) The annual report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection shall                |
| 137 | not contain any personally identifiable information but may include aggregated data.              |
| 138 | (3) If a recommendation in the annual report is directed at a particular subordinate              |
| 139 | agency, the head of the subordinate agency shall respond in writing to the Committee within 30    |
| 140 | days after the issuance of the annual report, describing the agency's plans to address the        |
| 141 | recommendation.   |
| 142 | (4) The Chief Medical Examiner shall annually, no later than 60 days after the                    |
| 143 | annual report described in paragraph (1) of this subsection is made publicly available, convene a |
| 144 | symposium at which the Chief Medical Examiner shall present the report to the public, District    |
| 145 | agencies implicated by the report's findings, the Deputy Mayors for Public Safety and Justice and |
| 146 | Health and Human Services, any relevant health or policy stakeholders, and the Committee's        |
| 147 | representatives and members.  |
| 148 | Sec. 4. Composition of the Committee; procedural requirements.                                    |
| 149 | (a) The Mayor shall appoint one representative from each of the following District                |
| 150 | agencies to serve on the Committee:   |
| 151 | (1) The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner;   |
| 152 | (2) The Department of Health;   |
| 153 | (3) The Department of Behavioral Health;  |
| 154 | (4) The Department of Health Care Finance;  |
| 155 | (5) The Department of Human Services; and   |

| 156 | (6) The Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning                  |
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| 157 | Affairs; and   |
| 158 | (b) The Mayor shall additionally appoint the following members in accordance with              |
| 159 | section 2(f) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C.    |
| 160 | Official Code §1-523.01(f):  |
| 161 | (1) One representative from a hospital located in the District;                                |
| 162 | (2) One representative from a community organization specializing in                           |
| 163 | transgender and gender-diverse issues;   |
| 164 | (3) One representative from a transgender and gender-diverse housing                           |
| 165 | organization;  |
| 166 | (4) One representative from a transgender and gender-diverse healthcare                        |
| 167 | provider;  |
| 168 | (5) One representative from a college or university within the District                        |
| 169 | conducting research in transgender and gender-diverse mortality trends or fatality prevention; |
| 170 | (6) One social worker specializing in transgender and gender-diverse issues or                 |
| 171 | clients; and   |
| 172 | (d)(1) Members appointed pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall serve at    |
| 173 | the pleasure of the Mayor, or of the entity designating their availability for appointment.    |
| 174 | (2) Members appointed pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall serve a 3-              |
| 175 | year term and may be removed by the Mayor for cause. Vacancies in membership shall be filled   |
| 176 | in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.                                 |
| 177 | (e) The Committee shall select a Chairperson according to procedures set forth by the          |
| 178 | Committee.   |

- (f) The Committee shall establish quorum and other procedural requirements as it considers necessary.
  - (g) No member appointed pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall serve in a holdover capacity for longer than 180 days after the expiration of the term to which they were appointed.
  - (h) The Committee may invite other stakeholders to attend or present at any relevant portion of a Committee meeting.
    - Sec. 5. Access to information.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, immediately upon the request of the Committee and as necessary to carry out the Committee's purpose and duties, the Committee shall be provided, without cost and without authorization of the persons to whom the information or records relate, access to:
  - (1) All information and records of:
- (A) Any District of Columbia agency, or a District agency's contractors, including birth and death certificates, law enforcement investigation data, unexpurgated and unsealed juvenile and adult criminal records, intellectual and developmental disabilities records, medical examiner investigation data, autopsy reports, parole and probation information and records, school records, and information records of social services, housing; and
- (B) Health agencies that provided services to the transgender and genderdiverse decedent, or in the case of fatality, services provided to the decedent's family, or an alleged or suspected perpetrator of violence or abuse whose acts led to the decedent's fatality;
- (2) All information and records of any health-care provider, healthcare facility, clinic, laboratory, or medical record department, including providers of mental health

services who provided services to the decedent, that receives information related to transgender and gender-diverse mortalities.

- (3) All information and records of any healthcare providers located in the District, including providers of health and mental health services who provided services to the decedent, the decedent's family, or the alleged or suspected perpetrator whose acts led to the decedent's death;
- (4) All information and records of any public or private child welfare agency, educational facility or institution, or childcare provider doing business in the District who provided services to the decedent, the decedent's family, or the alleged or suspected perpetrator whose acts led to the decedent's death;
- 212 (5) Information made confidential by § 4-1302.03 or § 4-1303.06, § 7-213 231.24(n), § 7-1203.02, § 7-1305.12, §§ 16-2331, 16-2332, 16-2333, and 16-2335, and § 31-214 3426.
  - (b) The Committee may seek information from entities and agencies outside the District by any legal means available to it.
  - (c)(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(1) of this section, information and records concerning a current law enforcement investigation may be withheld, at the discretion of the investigating authority, if disclosure of the information would compromise a criminal investigation or prosecution.
  - (2) If information or records are withheld under paragraph (1) of this subsection, a report on the status of the investigation shall be submitted to the Committee every 3 months until the earliest of the following events occurs:

| 224 | (A) The investigation is concluded and the information or records are                             |
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| 225 | provided to the Committee; or   |
| 226 | (B) The investigating authority determines that providing the information                         |
| 227 | will no longer compromise the investigation and the information or records are provided to the    |
| 228 | Committee.  |
| 229 | (d)(1) All records and information obtained by the Committee pursuant to subsections              |
| 230 | (a) and (b) of this section pertaining to a deceased victim or any other individual shall be      |
| 231 | destroyed immediately following the preparation of the Committee's annual report. All additional  |
| 232 | information concerning a review, except statistical data, shall be destroyed by the Committee one |
| 233 | year after publication of the Committee's annual report.  |
| 234 | (2) The Committee may have access to personally identifiable information relating                 |
| 235 | to transgender fatalities and mortalities; provided, that the Committee shall not disclose        |
| 236 | personally identifiable information.  |
| 237 | (3) The Department of Health and the Committee may retain data on facilities                      |
| 238 | where transgender mortalities occur for analytical purposes.                                      |
| 239 | (e)(1) The Department of Health shall establish a procedure to identify individuals who           |
| 240 | are not cisgender when reviewing decedents and to communicate said individuals to OCME on a       |
| 241 | routine basis.  |
| 242 | (2) The Department of Health, OCME, and any other relevant agency must use                        |
| 243 | their respective procedures for identifying individuals who are transgender, gender-diverse, or   |
| 244 | not cisgender when reviewing decedents and communicate information about said individuals to      |
| 245 | the Committee.  |

| (A)(1) If an agency does not have such procedures already in place, they                      |
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| will be required to establish such a procedure in writing and make it available to the public |
| within 180 days after the effective date of the "Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and |
| Fatality Review Act of 2023;  |

- (2) The Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Affairs shall provide support to agencies in developing these procedures.
- Sec. 6. Subpoena power.

- (a) When necessary for the discharge of its duties, the Committee may issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to appear, testify, or produce books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, documents, medical records, or other relevant records.
- (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, subpoenas shall be served personally upon the witness or the witness's designated agent, not fewer than 5 business days before the date the witness must appear or the documents must be produced, by a special process server, at least 18 years of age, engaged by the Committee.
- (c) If, after a reasonable attempt, personal service on a witness or a witness's agent cannot be effected, a special process server identified in subsection (b) of this section may serve a subpoena by registered or certified mail not fewer than 8 business days before the date the witness must appear, testify, or produce documents.
- (d) If a witness who has been personally summoned neglects or refuses to obey the subpoena issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Committee may report that fact to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and the court may compel obedience to the subpoena to the same extent as witnesses may be compelled to obey the subpoenas of the court.
  - Sec. 7. Confidentiality of information and proceedings.

(a) Except as provided in this section, information and records obtained or created by the Committee are confidential and not subject to civil discovery or to disclosure pursuant to subchapter II of Chapter 5 of Title 2.

- (b) Information and records presented to the Committee for review shall not be immune from subpoena, discovery, or prohibited from being introduced into evidence solely because they were presented to or reviewed by the Committee if the information and records have been obtained through other sources.
- (c) Information required to be reported under §4-1321.02 or §4-1321.03, shall be disclosed by the Committee to the Child and Family Services Agency.
- (d) A person other than a Committee member who appears before or participates in the Committee's review of fatalities shall sign a confidentiality agreement acknowledging that any information provided to the Committee is confidential; provided, that any such confidentiality agreement shall account for situations where disclosure is necessary for the person to comply with a request for information from the Committee.
- (e) Committee meetings shall be subject to subchapter IV of Chapter 5 of Title 2, except that Committee meetings shall be closed when the Committee is discussing cases of individual transgender fatalities and mortalities or where the identity of any person, other than a person who has expressly consented to be identified, can be ascertained.
- (f) In the case of fatality, information identifying a victim of a fatality or that victim's family members, or an alleged perpetrator of the fatality, shall not be disclosed in any report that is available to the public.
- (g) The Committee may disclose information to other entities when the Committee determines that disclosure is necessary to carry out the Committee's purpose and duties. The

Committee may disclose Committee records to another District fatality or mortality review committee or board at the request of the District fatality or mortality review committee or board, if the other District fatality or mortality review committee or board is governed by confidentiality that is substantially similar to the confidentiality by which the Committee is governed.

- (h) This section shall not be construed to prohibit a person from:
- (1) Disclosing information that the person obtained independently of the Committee; or
  - (2) Disclosing information that is already public.

- Sec. 8. Immunity from liability for providing information to the Committee.
- (a) Any person, hospital, or institution participating in good faith in providing information to the Committee pursuant to this chapter shall have immunity from administrative, civil, or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the disclosure of the information. In any such proceeding, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person, hospital, or institution that provided information to the Committee acted in good faith.
- (b) If acting in good faith, without malice, and within the parameters of the operating rules and procedures established by this chapter, members of the Committee are immune from civil liability for an activity related to reviews of transgender mortalities and fatalities, as the term is defined in §5-1431.01(e).
- Sec. 9. Unlawful disclosure of information; penalties.

Whoever knowingly discloses, receives, makes use of, or permits the use of information concerning a victim or person in violation of this chapter shall be subject to a civil fine of not

more than \$1,000. Violations of this chapter shall be prosecuted by the Office of the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee in the name of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 10. Rules.

The Mayor, pursuant to subchapter I of Chapter 5 of Title 2, may issue rules to implement the provisions of this chapter.

- Sec. 11. Section 303(a) of the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977, effective September 23, 1977 (D.C. Law 2-22; D.C. Official Code § 4-1302.03(a)), is amended as follows:
- (a) Paragraph (10) is amended by striking the phrase "; and" and inserting a semicolon in its place.
- (b) Paragraph (11) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase "; and" in its place.
  - (c) A new paragraph (12) is added to read as follows:
- "(12) The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee, for the purpose of examining past events and circumstances surrounding transgender mortalities and fatalities, as that term is defined in section XX of the Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee Amendment Act of 2023, passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading on XXX, 2023 (Enrolled version of Bill XX-XXX). The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee shall be granted, upon request, access to information contained in the files maintained on any deceased child or on the parent, guardian, custodian, kinship caregiver, day-to-day caregiver, relative/godparent, caregiver, or sibling of a deceased child."

| 336 | Sec. 12. Section 306(a) of the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977,                    |
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| 337 | effective October 18, 1979 (D.C. Law 3-29; D.C. Official Code §4-1303.06(a)), is amended as          |
| 338 | follows:   |
| 339 | (a) Paragraph (5) is amended by striking the phrase "; or" and inserting a semicolon in its          |
| 340 | place.   |
| 341 | (b) Paragraph (6) is amended by striking the period and inserting a semicolon in its                 |
| 342 | place.   |
| 343 | (c) Paragraph (7) is amended by striking the period and inserting "; or" in its place.               |
| 344 | (d) A new paragraph (8) is added to read as follows:   |
| 345 | "(8) The investigation or review of transgender and gender-diverse mortalities and                   |
| 346 | fatalities, as that term is defined in section XX of the Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality    |
| 347 | and Fatality Review Committee Amendment Act of 2023, passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading on XX X, 2023 |
| 348 | (Enrolled version of Bill XX-XXX).".   |
| 349 | Sec. 13. Title 16 of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended as follows:                   |
| 350 | (a) Section 16-311 is amended by striking the phrase "Child Fatality Review Committee                |
| 351 | or the Violence Fatality Review Committee" and inserting the phrase "Child Fatality Review           |
| 352 | Committee, Violence Fatality Review Committee, or Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality           |
| 353 | and Fatality Review Committee" in its place.   |
| 354 | (b) Section 16-2332(c)(g) is amended as follows:   |
| 355 | (1) Subparagraph (D)(ii)(II) is amended by striking "; and" and inserting a                          |
| 356 | semicolon in its place.  |
| 357 | (2) Subparagraph (E) is amended by striking the period and inserting "; and" in its                  |
| 358 | place.   |

| 359 | (3) A new paragraph (F) is added to read as follows:   |
|-----|--|
| 360 | "(F) The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review                                |
| 361 | Committee for the purposes of examining past events and circumstances surrounding transgender        |
| 362 | fatalities, as that term is defined in section XX of the Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality    |
| 363 | and Fatality Review Committee Amendment Act of 2023, passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading of XX X, 2023 |
| 364 | (Enrolled version of Bill XX-XXX), or for the discharge of its official duties.".                    |
| 365 | (c) Section 16-23331(c) is amended as follows:   |
| 366 | (1) Subparagraph (E) is amended by striking "; and" and inserting a semicolon in                     |
| 367 | its place.   |
| 368 | (2) Subparagraph (F) is amended by striking "; and" and inserting a semicolon in                     |
| 369 | its place.   |
| 370 | (3) A new subparagraph (G) is added to read as follows:  |
| 371 | (G) The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review                                 |
| 372 | Committee when necessary for the discharge of its official duties; and"                              |
| 373 | (d) Section 16-2335(d) is amended by striking the phrase "Child Fatality Review                      |
| 374 | Committee and the Violence Fatality Review Committee" and inserting the phrase "the Child            |
| 375 | Fatality Review Committee, the Violence Fatality Review Committee, and the Transgender and           |
| 376 | Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review Committee" in its place.                                |
| 377 | Sec. 6. Section 204(d)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act of 1976, effective March 29,             |
| 378 | 1977 (D.C. Law 1-96; D.C. Official Code § 2-534(d)), is amended as follows:                          |
| 379 | (a) Subparagraph (C) is amended by striking the phrase "; and" and inserting a                       |
| 380 | semicolon in its place.  |

| 381 | (b) Subparagraph (D) is amended by striking the period and inserting "; and" in its                   |
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| 382 | place.  |
| 383 | (c) A new subparagraph (E) is added to read as follows:   |
| 884 | "(E) The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review                                 |
| 885 | Committee, established by section XX of the Transgender and Gender-Diverse Fatality Review            |
| 886 | Committee Amendment Act of 2023, passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading of XX X, 2023 (Enrolled version of |
| 887 | Bill XX-XXX).".   |
| 888 | Sec. 7. Section 2(f) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law               |
| 889 | 2-142; D.C, Official Code § 1-523.01(1)), is amended as follows:                                      |
| 390 | (a) A new paragraph (72) is added to read as follows:   |
| 891 | "(72) The Transgender and Gender-Diverse Mortality and Fatality Review                                |
| 392 | Committee, established by section 102(b) of the Fatality Review Committee Amendment Act of            |
| 393 | 2023, passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading on XX X, 2023 (Enrolled version of Bill XX-XXX).".            |
| 394 | Sec. 8. Fiscal impact statement.  |
| 395 | The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal                  |
| 396 | impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,            |
| 897 | approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).                           |
| 398 | Sec. 9. Effective date.   |
| 399 | This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the            |
| 100 | Mayor, action by Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as            |
| 101 | provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December            |
| 102 | 24, 1973 (87 Sat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of       |
| 103 | Columbia Register.  |