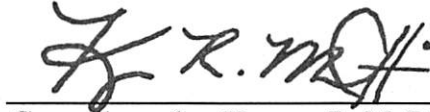
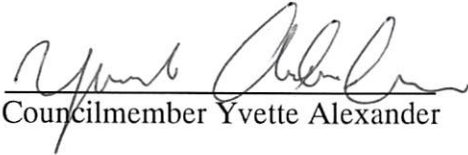




Chairman Phil Mendelson



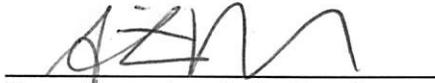
Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie



Councilmember Yvette Alexander



Councilmember Charles Allen



Councilmember Anita Bonds



Councilmember Mary M. Cheh



Councilmember Jack Evans



Councilmember David Grosso



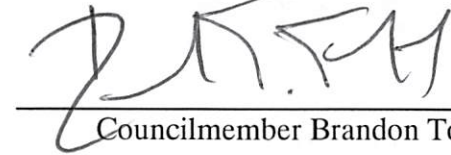
Councilmember LaRuby May



Councilmember Brianne Nadeau



Councilmember Elissa Silverman



Councilmember Brandon Todd



Councilmember Robert White, Jr.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the month of October 2016 as "Youth Justice Awareness Month" in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama proclaimed October 2016 as National Youth Justice Awareness Month on September 30, 2016, in order to call for juvenile justice reform nationwide;

WHEREAS, there were 3,141 youth arrested in the District of Columbia in 2015;

47 WHEREAS, there were 528 District youth committed to the care of the Department of
48 Youth Rehabilitation Services in 2015;

49
50 WHEREAS, there was an average of 17 District youth held by the Department of
51 Corrections in 2015;

52
53 WHEREAS, the juvenile justice system does not impact all communities equally;

54
55 WHEREAS, in 2015, 90% of youth committed to the care of the Department of Youth
56 Rehabilitation Services had a mental health diagnosis; 80% had an Individualized Education Plan;
57 64% were from Wards 5,7, and 8; and 100% were African-American;

58
59 WHEREAS, youth may be rehabilitated if provided effective, age-appropriate services and
60 supports;

61
62 WHEREAS, effective diversion programs can improve outcomes for youth and reduce
63 recidivism;

64
65 WHEREAS, juvenile mandatory minimum and life without parole sentences do not
66 provide a sufficient opportunity for consideration of the differences between youth and adults;

67
68 WHEREAS, adult jails and prisons are not well suited to providing for the safety, welfare,
69 and rehabilitation of youth;

70
71 WHEREAS, solitary confinement of youth has been shown to lead to harmful, long-term
72 psychological consequences;

73
74 WHEREAS, the impact of rehabilitation programs must be measured to ensure that youth
75 are well-served;

76
77 WHEREAS, the District of Columbia is answering the President's call by engaging in a
78 collaborative effort to advance comprehensive juvenile justice reform legislation by the end of the
79 year;

80
81 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
82 resolution may be cited as the "Youth Justice Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2016".

83
84 Sec. 2. The Council declares the month of October 2016 as "Youth Justice Awareness
85 Month" in the District of Columbia.

86
87 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
88 the District of Columbia Register.