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Councilmember Anita Bonds

Councilmember Brandon Todd

Councilmember Yvette Alexander

Councilmember Jack Evans

Councilmember David Grosso

Councilmember Brianne Nadeau

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie

Councilmember Charles Allen

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

Councilmember LaRuby May

Councilmember Elissa Silverman

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare December 2016 as "AIDS Awareness Month" in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, HIV and AIDS continues to be a major global public health issue;

WHEREAS, in 2015, an estimated 36.7 million people were living with HIV, including 1.8 million children, and 1.1 million people died of AIDS-related illnesses;

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) more than 1.2 million people in the United States are living with HIV, and 1 in 8 of them don't know it;

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40 WHEREAS, AIDS Awareness Month is a prime opportunity to raise awareness,
41 commemorate the lives lost, and celebrate victories such as increased access to treatment and
42 prevention services;

43 WHEREAS, the District of Columbia has been devoted to the fight against AIDS and the
44 infection rate has dropped seven consecutive years and HIV rates have decreased 40 percent
45 since 2009;

46 WHEREAS, on December 1, 2015, World AIDS Day, Mayor Bowser signed the Fast
47 Track Cities Declaration, an initiative led by Mayors and city governments from more than 50
48 high HIV burden cities around the world, reaffirming the District's long-standing commitment
49 toward fighting HIV/AIDS;

50 WHEREAS, World AIDS Day was started in 1988 and is celebrated every year on
51 December 1;

52 WHEREAS, World AIDS Day continues to be an important day globally because it
53 serves as a reminder that HIV has not gone away, and that there remains a vital need to raise
54 money, increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education; and

55 WHEREAS, recognizing December as AIDS Awareness Month reaffirms the District's
56 commitment to combatting this epidemic both locally and globally.

57 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF
58 COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "AIDS Awareness Month Recognition
59 Resolution of 2016".

60 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and supports "AIDS
61 Awareness Month", urges citizens to be tested, and supports the ongoing efforts by Mayor
62 Bowser, the District of Columbia government, health care providers, concerned citizens, and
63 community based organizations to fight and ultimately defeat this epidemic.

64 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take into effect immediately upon the first date of publication
65 in the District of Columbia Registrar.