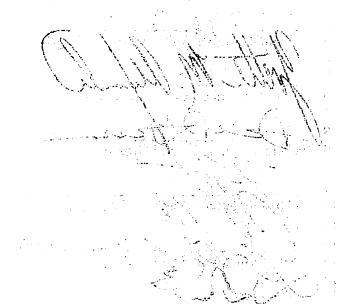
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5 6	Councilmember Yvette Alexander	Councilmember Jack Evans
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25	A CEREMONIA	L RESOLUTION
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29	IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	
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33	To declare December 2016 as "AIDS Awareness	Month" in the District of Columbia.
34	WHEREAS HIV and AIDS continues to	be a major global public health issue:
	WHEREAS, HIV and AIDS continues to be a major global public health issue;	
35	WHEREAS, in 2015, an estimated 36.7 million people were living with HIV, including	
36	1.8 million children, and 1.1 million people died of AIDS-related illnesses;	
37	WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) more	
38	than 1.2 million people in the United States are living with HIV, and 1 in 8 of them don't know	
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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.	