

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-198

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 3, 2017

To recognize the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia’s 2017 Winter Ready DC Campaign, which encourages District residents to prepare for the upcoming winter weather conditions.

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia citizens can suffer during severe winter weather conditions such as extremely cold temperatures, ice or heavy rain storms, and blizzard conditions with blinding snow, strong winds, severe drifting, dangerous wind chill, and heavy accumulations of snow;

WHEREAS, severe winter weather can cause power outages and interruptions in electric, telecommunications, and natural gas services, affecting Districts residents, businesses, and governments;

WHEREAS, winter weather can lead to injury and death from cold exposure, over-exertion or heart attacks related to snow removal, traffic accidents on icy roads, fallen trees, downed power lines, and fires and carbon monoxide poisoning caused by improper indoor use of heat sources;

WHEREAS, because winter heating costs consume a large portion of a household’s budget, District residents should have an “Energy Preparedness Plan” that includes conducting a home energy audit, winterizing their homes by finding and eliminating any leaks, adding insulation where needed, servicing their heating system, and using energy efficient light bulbs;

WHEREAS, District residents can reduce their overall energy costs by keeping meters and vents clear of snow, using a programmable thermostat, and where income-eligible, enrolling in utility discount programs;

WHEREAS, when replacing appliances, District residents are encouraged to purchase energy efficient appliances that use less energy than the standard models;

WHEREAS, community planning and preparation can prevent the loss of life, property, and hardship if precautionary steps are taken before severe weather occurs and by following appropriate measures during and after winter storms;

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission Winter Ready DC Campaign will encourage District residents, through education and outreach efforts, to create an “Energy Preparedness Plan” for their homes during the winter season;

WHEREAS, Winter Ready DC will encourage District residents to prepare emergency supply kits for their homes and vehicles including blankets, flashlights, water, first aid kits, non-perishable food, back-up batteries for telephones and battery chargers for mobile devices and laptops, and to check on neighbors, especially the elderly individuals with physical or mental health disabilities, or individuals who live alone; and

WHEREAS, Winter Ready DC promotes integration of efforts across all levels of government, utility service providers, businesses, and residents to ensure that the community is aware of available resources during winter.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Public Service Commission’s Winter Ready DC Campaign Recognition Resolution of 2017”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the Winter Ready DC Campaign in the District of Columbia.

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