Chairman Phil Mendelson

Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

Councilmember Elissa Silverman

Councilmember Charles Allen

Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

Councilmember Christina Henderson

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh



Councilmember Anita Bonds

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Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

Councilmember Brooke Pinto

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Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare December 10, 2021, as Human Rights Day in the District of Columbia and to reaffirm the Council's commitment to defending human rights.

41 WHEREAS, on December 10, 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the

42 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), a global commitment to dignity, liberty, and

equality regardless of status and lays out civil, social, economic, and other rights;

44	WHEREAS, in the decades since, the UDHR and its principles have inspired
45	transformational legal and social innovations around the world;
46	WHEREAS, on December 13, 1977, less than 4 years after enactment of the District of
47	Columbia Home Rule Act, the District of Columbia adopted the Human Rights Act of 1977
48	(DCHRA), which declared "the intent of the Council of the District of Columbia to secure an
49	end in the District of Columbia to discrimination for any reason other than that of individual
50	merit";
51	WHEREAS, the Council has from time to time expanded and refined the DCHRA, which
52	now prohibits discrimination in settings including housing, employment, public
53	accommodations, and educational institutions based on race; color; national origin; sex; age;
54	marital status; personal appearance; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; family
55	responsibilities; political affiliation; disability; matriculation; familial status; genetic information;
56	source of income; place of residence or business; status as a victim of an intrafamily offense;
57	credit information; or status as a victim or family member of a victim of domestic violence, a
58	sexual offense, or stalking;
59	WHEREAS, in 2008, the District of Columbia committed itself to serving as a Human
60	Rights City by modeling how to "make every citizen a partner of sustainable change" and by
61	building human rights into ongoing civic dialogue as a way of life;
62	WHEREAS, the Office of Human Rights and the Commission on Human Rights were
63	established to eradicate discrimination, increase equal opportunity and protect human rights for
64	persons who live in, work in, or visit the District of Columbia;
65	WHEREAS, the work of recognizing and protecting the human rights of District
66	residents is never complete;

67	WHEREAS, District residents continue to lead the fight to perfect our human rights laws
68	in the District and around the world;
69	WHEREAS, the Council is evaluating legislation to ensure that residents experiencing
70	homelessness, among other groups, are better protected from discrimination; and
71	WHEREAS, the Council remains committed to ensuring that the District of Columbia
72	remains a leading jurisdiction in promoting dignity, liberty, equality, and freedom from
73	discrimination.
74	RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
75	resolution may be cited as the "Human Rights Day Recognition Resolution of 2021".
76	Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia reaffirms its dedication to human rights
77	in the District and around the world, and declares December 10, 2021 as "Human Rights Day" in
78	the District of Columbia.
79	Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
80	the District of Columbia Register.