





1 
2
3 Chairman Phil Mendelson


Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

4
5 
6 Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau



Councilmember David Grosso

7
8 
9 Councilmember Charles Allen


Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

10
11 
12 Councilmember Elissa Silverman

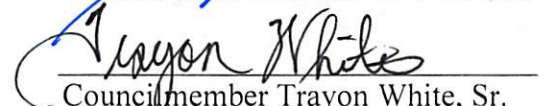
13 
14 Councilmember Brandon T. Todd

15
16 
17 Councilmember Anita Bonds

18 
19 Councilmember Jack Evans

20
21 
22 Councilmember Vincent Gray

23 
24 Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

25 
26 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

27
28
29 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

30 _____
31 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

32 _____
33 To declare the sense of the Council in opposition to the federal government shutdown and urge
34 the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to take
35 immediate action to reopen the government.

36 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution
37 may be cited as the "Sense of the Council in Opposition to the Federal Government
38 Shutdown Resolution of 2019".
39

40 Sec. 2. The Council finds that:

41 (1) The current shutdown began on December 21, 2018, and as a result,
42 approximately 400,000 non-critical employees of 9 agencies were sent home without pay.

43 (2) The immediate effect of the shutdown is on furloughed government
44 employees and Americans who depend on suspended services.

45 (3) As the shutdown continues, agencies use, and deplete, reserved funds,
46 and more services start to close.

47 (4) The shutdown of the government affects assistance received by many
48 Americans. For example, 1.9 million Native Americans and Alaska natives receive basic
49 services, such as pantry assistance and healthcare, from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which is
50 one of the agencies impacted by the shutdown.

51 (5) The Violence Against Women Act, which helps survivors of sexual assault,
52 domestic violence, and stalking, expired when the government shut down in December.
53 Programs already funded by grants will continue, but the shutdown will delay payment requests
54 for programs funded by the Violence Against Women Act.

55 (6) More than 300 immigration judges have been furloughed, meaning that
56 immigration courts have closed, and the massive backlog of cases will continue. It could take
57 weeks, or even years, before the rescheduled cases are heard in court.

58 (7) The Small Business Administration is closed, which means that loans for
59 small business owners and startups cannot be processed. This, in turn, affects access to capital
60 and the capacity to develop and maintain a thriving business.

61 (8) The District of Columbia Marriage Bureau is closed because of the shutdown,
62 which affects the ability of District residents to plan and celebrate their marriages in the District

63 of Columbia.

64 (9) At least 70 national parks have closed across the country as a result of the
65 shutdown, leading to trash and human waste piling up in national parks. For parks that do remain
66 open, many tell visitors they are entering at their own risk due to lower staffing and resources.

67 (10) Many local attractions and museums are also closed, including all
68 Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo. These closures affect tourism dollars and, in turn,
69 the District's economy.

70 (11) Most Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") operations have stopped during the
71 shutdown, as only 12 percent of IRS staff is working. The IRS will continue to issue refunds, but
72 there will be a significant impact on taxpayers during the 2019 tax season if the shutdown
73 extends for the next few weeks and could affect individuals who filed amended returns and
74 businesses who have unique filing deadlines.

75 Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that the President of the United States and the
76 Congress of the United States should immediately approve legislation to end the shutdown and
77 that the government should reopen immediately and provide the services it is charged by the
78 people to provide.

79 Sec. 4. The Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the
80 President of the United States, the United States House of Representatives, and the United States
81 Senate.

82 Sec.5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
83 the District of Columbia Register.