

A RESOLUTION

24-360

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

January 4, 2022

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Act of 2012 to establish the COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grant Program.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2022”.

Sec. 2. (a) As part of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Support Act of 2021, effective November 13, 2021 (D.C. Law 24-45; 68 DCR 10163), the Council amended section 2032 of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Act of 2012, effective September 12, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-168; D.C. Official Code § 1-328.04) (“section 2032”) to authorize the Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development to establish the Small Business Rent Relief Program to provide grants to small businesses that have experienced economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(b) The Council included \$40 million in the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development’s Fiscal Year 2022 budget to support the program (now the Small Business Relief Grant Program).

(c) In order to timely disburse grants under this program in the new year, it is necessary to amend section 2032 further to ensure that the program is effectively and efficiently administered and that the requirements that a small business must meet to be eligible for a grant and the authorized purposes for which grant funds may be used are clearly stated, and to adjust the percentage of the funds allocated for the program that may be expended for administrative expenses.

(e) Emergency action is necessary so that the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development can expeditiously issue grants to small businesses that have been hit hardest by the pandemic.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Emergency Amendment Act of 2022 be adopted after a single reading.

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Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.