

A RESOLUTION

25-302

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 3, 2023

To declare the existence of an emergency, with respect to the need to amend the University of the District of Columbia Expansion Act of 2010 to limit the University of the District of Columbia’s permitted use of the Patricia R. Harris Facility; and to amend the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Grant Program Amendment Act of 2023 to extend the period of time for the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development to issue a gran .

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Clarification of UDC PR Harris Exclusive Use Repeal Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. (a) In 2010, the Council passed the University of the District of Columbia Expansion Act of 2010 effective April 8, 2011 (D.C. Law 18-370; D.C. Official Code § 10-507.01, note), which gave the University of the District of Columbia (“UDC”) the exclusive use of the closed Patricia R. Harris Educational Center School (“PR Harris”). PR Harris is located at 4600 Livingston Road, S.E.

(b) For years, UDC, along with public charter schools, used PR Harris; however, PR Harris needed extensive modernization and this placed a financial burden on UDC. For this reason, in 2020, the Council passed the UDC PR Harris Exclusive Use Emergency Act of 2020, effective January 14, 2021 (D.C. Act 23-612; 68 DCR 1374) (“2020 emergency act”), and the UDC PR Harris Exclusive Use Temporary Act of 2020, effective April 5, 2021 (D.C. Law 23-272; 68 DCR 4177) (“2020 temporary act”), which repealed UDC’s exclusive use of PR Harris, thereby transferring control of the site back to the Mayor. Additionally, because UDC has a food hub in PR Harris’ parking lot and would like an office in PR Harris to support that food hub, the 2020 emergency and temporary acts retained UDC’s right to maintain its Ward 8 food hub and an office space in the building.

(c) The District has been operating as the lessor of PR Harris since the effective date of the 2020 emergency act; however, when the temporary act expired on November 16, 2021, exclusive use of PR Harris reverted back to UDC.

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(d) The Mayor has negotiated a new lease with the tenants of PR Harris but needs legislative action to transfer the exclusive use of PR Harris from UDC to the Mayor to execute the new lease. Thus, an immediate need exists to retroactively repeal UDC's exclusive use of PR Harris.

Sec. 3. The Council determines that the circumstances in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Clarification of UDC PR Harris Exclusive Use Repeal Emergency Amendment Act of 2023 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.