

A RESOLUTION

25-545

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 25, 2024

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to establish migrant services and supports to aid newcomers in settling in the District, obtaining healthcare and identification documentations, and accessing emergency shelter services.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Migrant Services and Supports Extension Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2024”.

Sec. 2. (a) An unprecedented influx of migrants entered the District over the last 3 years, including on buses from Texas and Arizona.

(b) The challenges faced by these migrants necessitate continued attention and comprehensive support beyond the capabilities of non-governmental organization partners alone.

(c) To address these needs, the Council enacted the Migrant Services and Supports Temporary Act of 2022 on October 4, 2022, and similar subsequent legislation.

(d) The Office of Migrant Services continues to provide a range of vital services to support migrants and any abrupt discontinuation of these services will lead to significant harm to migrants and District residents.

(e) The Council clarified the eligibility, procedural protections, and support services for migrants in the Migrant Services Eligibility Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2023, effective July 20, 2023 (D.C. Law 25-29; 70 DCR 7919).

(f) The most recent authorization of migrant services, the Migrant Services and Supports Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2023, effective November 28, 2023 (D.C. Law 25-72; 70 DCR 13839), will expire on July 10, 2024.

(g) The authorization of migrant services must be continued to provide necessary assistance and aid to migrants who have been forced to seek refuge within our borders, while concurrently preserving the programs and resources essential for the welfare of existing District residents.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

Sec. 3. The Council determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Migrant Services and Supports Extension Emergency Amendment Act of 2024 should be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.