

A RESOLUTION

26-160

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 1, 2025

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the the Juvenile Curfew Act of 1995 to authorize the Mayor to extend the juvenile curfew hours in the District when appropriate to protect public safety or public or private property, to authorize the Chief of Police to establish extended juvenile curfew hour zones in specified circumstances, to start the juvenile curfew hours at 11 p.m. every day in June, July, and August 2025, and to extend the applicability of the juvenile curfew to 17-year olds.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Juvenile Curfew Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2025”.

Sec. 2. (a) The Juvenile Curfew Act of 1995, effective September 20, 1995 (D.C. Law 11-48; D.C. Official Code § 2-1541 *et seq.*) (“Juvenile Curfew Act”), was enacted for the protection of minors to prevent violence and crime in the interest of public health, safety, and general welfare.

(b) The Juvenile Curfew Act has subsequently been amended multiple times to extend the curfew period in the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget Support Emergency Act of 2002, effective July 23, 2002 (D.C. Act 14-453; 49 Stat. 8026), and the Enhanced Crime Prevention and Abatement Emergency Amendment Act of 2006, effective July 21, 2006 (D.C. Act 16-446; 53 DCR 6477).

(c) Since 2023, the District has seen a rise in unruly behavior by some juveniles. Already this spring, the District has had several instances of large groups of juveniles engaging in harmful, and often times, criminal conduct in multiple areas around the city, including the Wharf, Navy Yard, and U Street. Multiple fights have broken out, robberies, assaults, and shootings have occurred. This past week, multiple youth were injured during melees in Dupont Circle and U Street. While MPD has used various methods to address this conduct, including enhanced enforcement of the disturbance of the peace offenses, working with local businesses on signage related to trespassing by unaccompanied minors, and requests for a restricted curfew in the Wharf, the tools available are limited. With summer, a time when we know that incidents of violence tend to tick upward citywide particularly amongst juveniles, the District is seeking flexibility in our juvenile curfew to allow MPD to ensure the safety of both juveniles and the public in order to more nimbly address significant safety concerns.

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(d) Therefore, emergency legislation is needed to address the safety of minors in the District.

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 Juvenile Curfew Emergency Amendment Act of 2025 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.