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 Councilmember Mary Cheh Chairman Phil Mendelson

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To declare the existence of an emergency, due to congressional review, with respect to symbolically designating the 2600 block of Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., between Davis Street, N.W., and Edmunds Street, N.W., in Ward 3, as Boris Nemtsov Plaza.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Boris Nemtsov Plaza Designation Congressional Review Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. (a) There exists an immediate need to symbolically designate the 2600 block of Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., between Davis Street, N.W., and Edmunds Street, N.W., in Ward 3, as “Boris Nemtsov Plaza”.

(b) February 27, 2018 marked the three year anniversary of the death of Boris Nemtsov, a Russian politician and advocate for democracies whose assassination garnered international attention in 2015.

(c) The three-year anniversary date of Boris Nemtsov’s death included the unveiling of the symbolic signage designating the 2600 block of Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., in front of the Embassy of the Russian Federation, his homeland, as “Boris Nemtsov Plaza”.

(d) The symbolic designation created a memorial in Boris Nemtsov’s honor that cannot be dismantled. Further, the designation serves a symbol of the District’s commitment to democracy and sends a message of solidarity to those fighting for democratic principles around the world.

 (e) Bill 22-539, the “Boris Nemtsov Plaza Designation Act of 2017” has been approved on final reading by the Council but will not become law for several months, due to the Congressional Review period. In order to guarantee that the signage will remain as installed, it is necessary to designate the 2600 block of Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. as “Boris Nemtsov Plaza” through emergency legislation.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia finds that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the “Boris Nemtsov Plaza Designation Congressional Review Emergency Approval Act of 2018” remain in effect.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.