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Chairman Phil Mendelson Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie

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, with respect to establishing an Office of Racial Equity to coordinate the District’s efforts to achieving racial equity; to amending Chapter 3 of Title 47 of the District of Columbia Official Code to require the Office to collaborate with the Mayor to design and implement a racial equity tool to aid in eliminating racial disparities among District employees and to require the Mayor, beginning in Fiscal Year 2021, to include racial equity-related performance measures in the development of an agency’s annual performance plans and an evaluation of the use of the racial equity tool in the annual performance accountability reports, and require the office to establish an advisory entity to advise the office and to serve as a liaison to the public; to amending the Office of Human Rights Establishment Act of 1999 to require the Office of Human Rights and the Department of Human Resources to develop and provide racial equity training for District employees and boards and commissions; to stating the sense of the Council that it should establish an Office of Racial Equity; and to establishing a Commission on Racial Equity to advise the Council..

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020.”

Sec. 2. (a) There exists an immediate need to enact the Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Amendment Act given that funding for the legislation has been appropriated through the Fiscal Year 2021 budget that started on October 1, 2020.

 (b) Bill 22-38, the “Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Amendment Act of 2020” is currently under review by the Council. The measure was adopted by the Council on first reading on October 20, 2020 and is scheduled for second reading on November 10, 2020.

 (c) To ensure that the positions to support the REACH Act can be created at the Office of the City Administrator and in the Council, it is necessary to enact the new law sooner than the permanent measure will become effective.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances, making it necessary that the Racial Equity Achieves Results (REACH) Emergency Amendment Act of 2020 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.