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Chairman Phil Mendelson

A BILL

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To amend, on an emergency basis, the tolling time for FOIA requests.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “FOIA Tolling Emergency Amendment Act of 2020”.

Sec. 2. Section 808 of the Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2020, effective October 9, 2020 (D.C. Law 23-130; 67 DCR 12236), is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 808. Freedom of Information Act.

“The Freedom of Information Act of 1976, effective March 29, 1977 (D.C. Law 1-96; D.C. Official Code § 2-531 et seq.), is amended as follows:

“(a) Section 202 (D.C. Official Code § 2-532) is amended as follows:

“(1) Subsection (c) is amended as follows:

“(A) Paragraph (1) is amended by striking the phrase “Sundays, and” and inserting the phrase “Sundays, days of the Initial COVID-19 closure, and” in its place.

“(B) Paragraph (2)(A) is amended by striking the phrase “Sundays, and” and inserting the phrase “Sundays, days of a the Initial COVID-19 closure, and” in its place.

“(2) Subsection (d)(1) is amended by striking the phrase “Sundays, and” both times it appears and inserting the phrase “Sundays, days of a the Initial COVID-19 closure, and” in its place.

“(b) Section 207(a) (D.C. Official Code § 2-537(a)) is amended by striking the phrase “Sundays, and” and inserting the phrase “Sundays, days of the initial COVID-19 closure, and” in its place.

“(c) Section 209 (D.C. Official Code § 2-539) is amended by adding a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

““(c) For the purposes of this title, the term “Initial COVID-19 closure” means March 11, 2020 through December 1, 2020

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975, approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

Sec. 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than 90 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section 412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).