

## LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW

## **INTRODUCTIONS & CO-INTRODUCTIONS**

- O Domestic Partnership Joint Filing Clarification Act of 2023 This bill promotes fairness for domestic partners under DC tax law. It would eliminate a tax penalty that currently exists requiring domestic partners to file their annual income taxes jointly. While well intentioned, the law as currently written, can actually *increase* the tax liability of a domestic partner who otherwise could itemize their taxes.
- Tree Preservation Enhancement Amendment Act of 2023 This bill will substantially increase the District's tree canopy. It will protect more trees, increase fines for the illegal removal of trees, and direct more money to the Tree Fund for the removal of the largest so called "heritage" trees. The Tree Fund supports the Urban Forestry Administration at DDOT. The goal is to incentivize the retention the trees while increasing resources for the government to plant more trees and to reverse the continual shrinkage of the District's tree canopy.
- o **School Facilities Sponsorship and Naming Amendment Act of 2023** This legislation creates a new process for the naming of DCPS spaces such as a library, athletic field, auditorium, and a gymnasium. Under this legislation an organization, athletic booster or parent teacher organization, would be able to donate something of value to a school in exchange for a naming.

## TO BE APPROVED ON TUESDAY

- Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023 This legislation clears the way for more social workers in the District through our public university. The bill supports the University of the District of Columbia in creating a Masters of Social Work degree and establishing a scholarship program for District residents and employees who are seeking higher education in this field.
- School Student Vaccination Amendment Act of 2023 This legislation would remove the
  requirement for DC students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before they may enroll in school. It
  also aligns the requirement for parents to provide proof of other vaccinations in accordance with
  recommended schedules for booster shots.
- o **Bishop C.M. Bailey Posthumous Recognition Resolution of 2023** This resolution recognizes the life of Bishop C.M. Bailey for his dedication and valuable contributions to both civic and religious life in DC through his leadership of the United House of Prayer. Bishop Bailey dedicated his life and career to serving others and providing for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of so many people, including thousands of residents of the District.
- Martin Austermuhle Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2023 This resolution recognizes Martin
  Austermuhle for his contributions to the District through journalism. For more than a decade, Martin
  Austermuhle provided an important perspective and reliable voice to local journalism in the District
  of Columbia.