

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

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**TO:** All Councilmembers

**FROM:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
Committee of the Whole

**DATE:** July 1, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Report on Bill26-261, the “Fiscal Year 2026 Federal Portion Budget Request Act of 2025”

The Committee of the Whole, to which Bill 26-261 was referred, reports favorably thereon with amendments, and recommends approval by the Council. This legislation sets forth the District government’s request to Congress for federal funding to support the District’s budget for Fiscal Year 2026. It also requests funding for federal agencies that serve District residents and other entities.

The District’s annual budget is appropriated via local legislation.<sup>1</sup> For Fiscal Year 2026, that legislation is Bill, the Fiscal Year 2026 Local Budget Act of 2025. Further information on the District’s Fiscal Year 2026 budget and financial plan will be set forth in the committee’s report on that legislation. In addition to the Local Budget Act, the Council adopts a budget request act for a small number of federal payments. Bill26-261, the Federal Portion Budget Request Act, is that measure.

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**I. BACKGROUND AND NEED**

Section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 798; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.42), requires the Mayor to prepare and submit to the Council an annual budget for the District. Section 446 provides that the Council, within 70 days after receipt of the Mayor’s proposed budget, shall by act adopt the annual budget for the District government,

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<sup>1</sup> Section 446(c) of the Home Rule Act.

with the federal portion of the budget being submitted separately as a request to the President for transmission to Congress.

Bill 26-261, the Fiscal Year 2026 Federal Portion Budget Request Act of 2025, as approved by the Committee of the Whole, reflects the portion of the budget for Fiscal Year 2026 that is made up of federal payments.

The District has had the authority to raise its own revenues since 1973. Prior to the enactment of the National Capital Revitalization and Self Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act), however, a significant portion of the District's budget was comprised of an annual payment from the federal government to the District. This payment grew to approximately \$660 million annually in the mid-1990s and constituted approximately 16 percent of the District's total budget. With the Revitalization Act, and because of the District's strong financial management, federal payments made exclusively to the District government have shrunk dramatically.

Enactment of the Revitalization Act also transferred certain functions performed by the District government to the federal government. These functions and agencies consist of key components of the District's criminal justice system and are funded through federal appropriations. Bill 26-261 proposes funding levels for these functions and agencies.

Of the District's Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget, as proposed by Mayor Muriel Bowser, the vast majority is raised locally through District taxes and fees or derived from other local sources. Most of the rest is federal formula spending that includes Medicaid and federal grants available to all jurisdictions and for which the federal government has no oversight responsibility unique to the District. Overall, approximately 99 percent of the District's budget is derived from local revenue and from federal formula grants not unique to the District. Less than one percent comes from federal payments specifically requested for local programs or projects.

The District can rely on a stable foundation of local funding even though it suffers from a constrained tax base. It is constrained in part because nearly half of the land in the District is federal or international and therefore tax-exempt.<sup>2</sup> The total forgone tax revenue on this property is estimated at \$2.11 billion.<sup>3</sup>

The District is also prohibited by the Home Rule Act from taxing income at its source. This so-called "commuter tax" prohibition not only deprives the District of the power of other municipalities and states to tax income earned within their jurisdiction by nonresidents; it also deprives the District of tax revenues that would otherwise inure to it because D.C. residents who work and are taxed in other states can take a credit against the income tax they would otherwise pay to the District.

Nevertheless, the District maintains a strong economic record supported by adherence to responsible financial management and fiscal discipline. This is evidenced by the minimal reliance

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<sup>2</sup> Office of the Chief Financial Officer "D.C. Tax Facts 2023".

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

on a federal payment, as noted above, and the solid financial footing rooted in locally sourced funding. Our capital spending is disciplined. The Home Rule Act limits borrowing to 17 percent of revenues. However, by local law, borrowing is limited to 12 percent of revenues. And our retirement funds and post-employment benefits, combined, are the best-funded in the nation. The District's minimal reliance on federal funding is also prudent given that cuts to federal spending have impacted state and local governments in recent years.<sup>4</sup>

The 1997 Revitalization Act Congress has also required the District to maintain two reserve funds (i.e., "rainy day" funds): an Emergency Reserve and a Contingency Reserve. However, the District has established two additional reserve funds: a Cash Flow Reserve and a Fiscal Stabilization Reserve. As of September 30, 2024 (the end of the last fiscal year) the funds in these reserves are equal to 52 days operating costs.

In addition to Bill 26-261's request for federal payments to the District and to the criminal justice agencies that were moved to the federal government's budget in 1997, this Budget Request Act sets forth desired federal funding to support—in whole or in part—entities that serve District residents: the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, two judicial commissions, the National Guard, the University of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.<sup>5</sup>

Bill 26-261 also seeks to strengthen local government and the District's economy through the provisions in sections three through 15.

The Committee recommends adoption of the Print.

## **II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY**

### **III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE**

Bill 26-261 represents the federal portion of the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget and Financial Plan but some of the budget requests have been adjusted by the Committee.

### **IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS**

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on Bill 26-261.

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<sup>4</sup> The District's financial rating is AAA with Moody's and AA+ with the other Wall Street ratings agencies. Interestingly, these agencies identify the District's financial relationship with Congress as a negative risk factor.

<sup>5</sup> See Section VIII for more detail.

## V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

### VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Bill 26-261 is the District's request for the federal portion of the District's budget for Fiscal Year 2025. Pursuant to section 446 of the Home Rule Act, this legislation is a request to Congress and does not amend existing District law. As set forth in the Home Rule Act, the recommendations included in Bill 26-261 are effective only insofar as they are adopted by Congress. The fiscal impact is borne by congressional appropriations.

### VII. FISCAL IMPACT

Bill 26-261 comprises the Council's adoption of the federal portion of the annual budget for the District government and establishes the level of funding for certain operations of the District for Fiscal Year 2026 as set forth in the legislation.

### VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FEDERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATION REQUEST

Section 1 States the short title of Bill26-261.

Section 2 Sets forth the requested federal portion expenditure levels and appropriation language for the government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, as follows:

Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts - \$282,076,000.

This amount supports several components of the District of Columbia Courts: \$15,788,000 for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals; \$151,139,000 for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; and \$107,500,000 for the District of Columbia Court System. This includes \$1,060,000 above the amount requested for the Superior Court in the President's FY26 budget request to speed courtroom proceedings at a time when the court is dealing with an unprecedented number of vacant judgeships by hiring two new magistrate judges and support staff. An additional \$1,872,000 above the President's request would address an increased demand for language services at the Superior Court. Just over \$370,000 would allow the court to hire three new translation staffers. Remaining funds above the President's request allow for a rate increase for contract interpreters to keep the court competitive with rates offered by the U.S. State Department, the Office of the U.S. Attorney, and other major language services customers in the region.

An additional \$3,674,000 above the President's request makes it easier for the Court of Appeals and Superior Court to hire law clerks to support judges by

providing the resources necessary to pay them at the same rate paid by federal courts.

Additional funding for the Court System above the President's request would allow the courts to make needed investments in physical (\$6,131,000) and IT (\$1,000,000) security.

Finally, this amount also supports \$76,490,000 for capital expenses, including \$50,540,000 in funding not included in the President's request. This additional funding would allow the courts to continue modernizing courtrooms and judges' chambers. Fifty of the courts' 72 trial courtroom sets have not been updated in as many as 20 years, cannot accommodate modern courtroom technology, and do not meet current building code and Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. Continued funding of this project in FY25 would allow work on five courtroom sets. It would also allow the courts to address critical life safety concerns at court facilities, including sprinkler systems and building railings that are not compliance with applicable building codes.

Federal Payment for Court Services - \$310,840,000.

This amount supports the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, established by Congress in 1997 to supervise D.C. Code offenders and take on the responsibilities of the District's Pretrial Services Agency, which makes release recommendations to the courts and enforces the conditions of release.

Federal Payment for Public Defender Services - \$105,310,000.

This amount supports the two agencies providing representation and appointed counsel in certain proceedings in the District of Columbia Courts: \$46,005,000 for Defender Services at the courts; and \$59,305,000 for the independent Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. The bill language further proposes that the courts be permitted, following notification to Congress, to reallocate funds appropriated to Defender Services for other purposes. This proposal is an acknowledgment of the fact that courts' caseloads and the need for public defenders will vary and responds to the cancellation of \$12 million in unobligated balances from prior years despite significant unfunded needs elsewhere at the courts.

Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support - \$40,000,000.

This amount supports the program known as the D.C. Tuition Assistance Grant or "DCTAG" and is used to pay tuition assistance to individual District residents based on the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition at public institutions of higher education. This program was created by Congress in 1999.

Federal Payment for School Improvement - \$52,500,000.

This amount supports the payments for primary and secondary education in three sectors (DCPS, DC Public Charter Schools, and vouchers) authorized

under the federal Scholarship for Opportunity and Results Act. This funding should continue to be divided equally between the three sectors as has been the case since 2004. (The Committee opposes a proposal made in the House committee-passed version of the FY24 Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill to cut payments to DCPS in half to boost spending on vouchers. A loss of funding for DCPS through this program would jeopardize implementation of a successful performance-based pay system for DCPS teachers.)

Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Early Childhood Educator Fund - \$5,000,000.

This amount provides the District of Columbia's Office of the State Superintendent of Education with the funding necessary to supplement the salaries of eligible early childhood educators at childcare facilities sponsored by federal agencies. Educators at these facilities—including facilities sponsored by the United States Senate, the United States House of Representatives, and the U.S. Department of Labor—are eligible for annual payments intended to provide pay parity between early childhood educators in the District and their K-12 counterparts.

Federal Payment to the University of the District of Columbia – \$9,000,000

This amount funds necessary improvements to research infrastructure at the University of the District of Columbia, the only public university in the District.

Federal Payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council - \$8,210,000.

This amount supports initiatives related to the coordination of federal and local criminal justice resources. The additional resources above the President's request fund new statutory obligations recently placed on the Commission, including through enactment of the Secure DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2024 (D.C. Act 25-410), and provide \$5,450,000 needed to maintain and modernize the Justice Information System, an information technology system that facilitates 24-hour information sharing on criminal justice matters among 3,700 users across 33 federal and District agencies<sup>6</sup>.

Federal Payment for Judicial Commissions - \$1,056,000.

This amount funds the operations of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure at \$598,000 and the Judicial Nomination Commission at \$458,000. The additional \$426,000 requested above the amount provided to the commissions in FY24 and requested in the President's FY25 request fund necessary salary adjustments and additional staffing at both commissions necessary to retain existing staff and add additional resources necessary to meet the agencies' statutory obligations. The Committee is concerned that failure to properly resource these commissions could contribute to operational inefficiencies and worsen the crisis of vacant judgeships on the District's courts.

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<sup>6</sup> Link to MB letter.

Federal Payment for the District of Columbia National Guard - \$600,000.

This amount supports the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

Federal Payment for Testing and Treatment of HIV/AIDS - \$4,000,000.

This amount contributes to the District's efforts to test for and treat individuals with HIV and AIDS.

Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia - \$71,000,000

This amount is more than twice the amount requested by the President and reelect the costs incurred through the District's provision of public safety at events related to the city's status the nation's capital, including support requested by the Secret Service in carrying out protective duties and support to respond to terrorist threats or attacks in the region. Included in this request is reimbursement for estimated \$11 million the District spent securing the June 14, 2025, parade commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Army.

Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority - \$20,000,000.

This amount supports the continued implementation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan, known as "Clean Rivers." This Plan is court-ordered, results from federal Clean Water Act requirements, and remediates water pollution caused by the sewage system built and operated by the federal government before the District was granted Home Rule.

Federal Payment to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority - \$158,000,000

This amount provides capital support for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (through the Passenger Rail Infrastructure and Investment Act).

Section 3

Compensation of the Chief Financial Officer

This section amends the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to state that the Chief Financial Officer shall be paid equal to the limit on total pay for certain federal employees pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 5307(d), or at a rate established by law by the District of Columbia, except that the Chief Financial Officer's salary cannot be reduced during his or her service as Chief Financial Officer. Once enacted, this provision will enable the District government to increase the Chief Financial Officer's salary, just as it may raise the salaries of its Mayor, Chief of Police, Public Schools Chancellor, and other important officials.

Section 4

Federal Portion Budget Request Act Responsibilities

This section clarifies the responsibilities given to the Mayor and the Council in the Home Rule Act regarding the District's annual request to Congress for

funding and legislation in the Federal Portion Budget Request Act. Among other things, the proposed changes treat the Request Act like any other piece of legislation approved by Council.

Section 5                    Contingency Cash

This section, if enacted, provides that withdrawals from the Contingency Cash Reserve Fund greater than \$500,000 must be approved by the Council by resolution. This addresses the fact that, under the Home Rule Act, only the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer are involved in decisions to spend money deposited in the Fund while withdrawals must be paid back within two years. This essentially makes withdrawals from the fund an appropriation that Council has not approved. The Committee believes Council should have a role in the approval of expenditures from the Fund before being required to appropriate the repayments.

Section 6                    Sales Tax

This section expands the District’s sales tax base to include places such as Smithsonian museum gift shops and government-building cafeterias. These businesses compete with the private sector and should not be favored by exemption from the sales tax. No public policy is served by the tax exemption. Importantly, this provision does not tax the federal government, but congressional approval is necessary.

Section 7                    College Access Inflation Adjustment

This section increases the annual and lifetime limits on grant amounts that can be provided to eligible District college students through the D.C. Tuition Assistance Program in recognition of the increasing cost of college. Under current law, the program provides grant recipients up to \$10,000 per year—or, up to \$50,000 over the course of their college career—to cover the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition at participating public colleges and universities outside of the District. This section increases the maximum grant for public college and university students to \$15,000 and the lifetime cap to \$75,000. The current amounts have not been adjusted since the Tuition Assistance Grant program was created in 1999.

Section 8                    Elections Board Expansion

This section increases the number of members on the District’s Board of Elections from three to five.

Section 9                    Judicial Vacancies

This section recommends passage of legislation introduced in the House and Senate during the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to streamline the filling of vacancies on the District’s Court of Appeals and Superior Court. Under current law, the President nominates candidates to fill vacant judgeships. Nominees are then considered by the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. If approved by the Committee, they then proceed to the Senate

floor and wait for a floor vote. The Senate adjourned last year leaving two Court of Appeals and nine Superior Court judgeships vacant.

Section 10

Bureau of Prisons Reporting

This section recommends passage of legislation introduced in the House during the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to require the U.S. Bureau of Prisons to regularly provide information to District officials on individuals convicted of felonies in the District who are held in Bureau facilities. Among the information provided would be the individuals' scheduled release date.

Section 11

National Children's Museum

This section recommends passage of legislation introduced in the House during the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to require the Administrator of General Services to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Children's Museum requiring, among other things, that the General Services Administration pay rent for the museum at its current location in the District using resources from one or more specific funds. The museum would not be responsible for rent payments. This arrangement would continue as long as the museum remains a nonprofit children's museum within the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. The proposal mirrors bipartisan legislation introduced in the House of Representatives (H.R. 5937, the National Children's Museum Act).

Section 12

Electronic Transmission of Legislation

This section allows the Chairman to electronically transmit legislation to the House and Senate for congressional review. Under current law, legislation approved by the Council must be physically transmitted to House and Senate officials.

Section 13

Public Defender Service Budget Submission

This section requires the Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia to submit its annual budget request to the Mayor and the Council.

Section 14

Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Budget Submission

This section requires the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency to submit its annual budget request to the Mayor and the Council.

Section 15

This section states that this legislation constitutes the federal portion of the District's Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

Section 16

This section adopts the Fiscal Impact Statement.

Section 17

This section establishes the effective date of this legislation.

**IX. COMMITTEE ACTION**

**X. ATTACHMENTS**

1  
2  
3 A BILL

4  
5 26-261

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8 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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13 To adopt, as a request to Congress for appropriation and authorization, the federal portion of the  
14 budget of the government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending  
15 September 30, 2026.  
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
18 act may be cited as the “Fiscal Year 2026 Federal Portion Budget Request Act of 2025”.

19 Sec. 2. Adoption of the federal portion of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

20 There is adopted, as a request to Congress for appropriation and authorization, the  
21 following federal portion of the budget of the government of the District of Columbia for the  
22 fiscal year ending September 30, 2026:

23 **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FEDERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATION REQUEST**

24 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**

25 For salaries and expenses for the District of Columbia Courts, including the transfer and  
26 hire of motor vehicles, \$282,076,000 to be allocated as follows: for the District of Columbia  
27 Court of Appeals, \$15,788,000, of which not to exceed \$2,500 is for official reception and  
28 representation expenses; for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, \$151,139,000, of  
29 which not to exceed \$2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the District  
30 of Columbia Court System, \$107,500,000, of which not to exceed \$2,500 is for official reception  
31 and representation expenses; and \$76,490,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, for

32 capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities; Provided, That funds made  
33 available for capital improvements shall be expended consistent with the District of Columbia  
34 Courts master plan study and facilities condition assessment; Provided further, That, in addition  
35 to the amounts appropriated herein, fees received by the District of Columbia Courts for  
36 administering bar examinations and processing District of Columbia bar admissions may be  
37 retained and credited to this appropriation, to remain available until expended, for salaries and  
38 expenses associated with such activities, notwithstanding section 450 of the District of Columbia  
39 Home Rule Act (section 1-204.50, D.C. Official Code); Provided further, That notwithstanding  
40 any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the  
41 Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds  
42 appropriated for salaries and expenses of Federal agencies; Provided further, That 30 days after  
43 providing written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives  
44 and the Senate, the District of Columbia Courts may reallocate not more than \$9,000,000 of the  
45 funds provided under this heading among the items and entities funded under this heading;  
46 Provided further, That the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of  
47 Columbia may, by regulation, establish a program substantially similar to the program set forth  
48 in subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, for employees of the District of  
49 Columbia Courts.

50 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY**  
51 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

52 For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the Court  
53 Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, as authorized by the  
54 National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, \$310,840,000

55 of which not to exceed \$2,000 is for official reception and representation expenses related to  
56 Community Supervision and Pretrial Services Agency programs; of which not to exceed \$25,000  
57 is for dues and assessments relating to the implementation of the Court Services and Offender  
58 Supervision Agency Interstate Supervision Act of 2002; Provided, That, of the funds  
59 appropriated under this heading, \$218,010,000 shall be for necessary expenses of Community  
60 Supervision and Sex Offender Registration, to include expenses relating to the monitoring of  
61 adults subject to protection orders or the provision of services for or related to such persons;  
62 Provided further, That, of the funds appropriated under this heading, \$92,830,000 shall be  
63 available to the Pretrial Services Agency; Provided further, That notwithstanding any other  
64 provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of  
65 Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated  
66 for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies; Provided further, That amounts under this  
67 heading may be used for programmatic incentives for defendants to successfully complete their  
68 terms of supervision.

69 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE**

70 For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the  
71 District of Columbia Public Defender Service, as authorized by the National Capital  
72 Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, \$59,305,000; Provided, That  
73 notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned  
74 quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same  
75 manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of Federal agencies; Provided further,  
76 That the District of Columbia Public Defender Service may establish for employees of the  
77 District of Columbia Public Defender Service a program substantially similar to the program set

78 forth in subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, except that the maximum  
79 amount of the payment made under the program to any individual may not exceed the amount  
80 referred to in section 3523(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code; Provided further, That for the  
81 purposes of engaging with, and receiving services from, Federal Franchise Fund Programs  
82 established in accordance with section 403 of the Government Management Reform Act of 1994,  
83 as amended, the District of Columbia Public Defender Service shall be considered an agency of  
84 the United States Government; Provided further, That the District of Columbia Public Defender  
85 Service may enter into contracts for the procurement of severable services and multiyear  
86 contracts for the acquisition of property and services to the same extent and under the same  
87 conditions as an executive agency under sections 3902 and 3903 of title 41, United States Code.

88 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**

89 For payments authorized under section 11-2604 and section 11-2605, D.C. Official Code  
90 (relating to representation provided under the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Act),  
91 payments for counsel appointed in proceedings in the Family Court of the Superior Court of the  
92 District of Columbia under chapter 23 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, or pursuant to contractual  
93 agreements to provide guardian ad litem representation, training, technical assistance, and such  
94 other services as are necessary to improve the quality of guardian ad litem representation,  
95 payments for counsel appointed in adoption proceedings under chapter 3 of title 16, D.C. Official  
96 Code, and payments authorized under section 21-2060, D.C. Official Code (relating to services  
97 provided under the District of Columbia Guardianship, Protective Proceedings, and Durable  
98 Power of Attorney Act of 1986), \$46,005,000, to remain available until expended; Provided,  
99 That funds provided under this heading shall be administered by the Joint Committee on Judicial  
100 Administration in the District of Columbia; Provided further, That 30 days after providing

101 written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the  
102 Senate, the District of Columbia Courts may reallocate the funds provided under this heading;  
103 Provided further, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall be  
104 apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in  
105 the same manner as funds appropriated for expenses of Federal agencies.

106 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION SUPPORT**

107 For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia, to be deposited into a dedicated  
108 account, for a nationwide program to be administered by the Mayor, for District of Columbia  
109 resident tuition support, \$40,000,000, to remain available until expended; Provided, That such  
110 funds, including any interest accrued thereon, may be used on behalf of eligible District of  
111 Columbia residents to pay an amount based upon the difference between in-State and out-of-  
112 State tuition at public institutions of higher education, or to pay up to \$2,500 each year at eligible  
113 private institutions of higher education; Provided further, That the awarding of such funds may  
114 be prioritized on the basis of a resident's academic merit, the income and need of eligible  
115 students, and such other factors as may be authorized; Provided further, That the District of  
116 Columbia government shall maintain a dedicated account for the Resident Tuition Support  
117 Program that shall consist of the Federal funds appropriated to the Program in this Act and any  
118 subsequent appropriations, any unobligated balances from prior fiscal years, and any interest  
119 earned in this or any fiscal year; Provided further, That the account shall be under the control of  
120 the District of Columbia Chief Financial Officer, who shall use those funds solely for the  
121 purposes of carrying out the Resident Tuition Support Program; Provided further, That the Office  
122 of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide a quarterly financial report to the Committees on  
123 Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for these funds showing, by

124 object class, the expenditures made, and the purpose therefor.

125 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

126 For a Federal payment for a school improvement program in the District of Columbia,  
127 \$52,500,000, to remain available until expended, for payments authorized under the Scholarship  
128 for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112-10); Provided, That, to the extent  
129 that funds are available for opportunity scholarships and following the priorities included in  
130 section 3006 of such Act, the Secretary of Education shall make scholarships available to  
131 students eligible under section 3013(3) of such Act (Public Law 112-10; 125 Stat. 211),  
132 including students who were not offered a scholarship during any previous school year; Provided  
133 further, That within funds provided for opportunity scholarships up to \$1,200,000 shall be for the  
134 activities specified in sections 3007(b) through 3007(d) of the Act and up to \$500,000 shall be  
135 for the activities specified in section 3009 of the Act; Provided further, That none of the funds  
136 made available under this heading may be used for an opportunity scholarship for a student to  
137 attend a school which does not certify to the Secretary of Education that the student will be  
138 provided with the same protections under the Federal laws which are enforced by the Office for  
139 Civil Rights of the Department of Education which are provided to a student of a public  
140 elementary or secondary school in the District of Columbia and which does not certify to the  
141 Secretary of Education that the student and the student’s parents will be provided with the same  
142 services, rights, and protections under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
143 1400 *et seq.*) which are provided to a student and a student’s parents of a public elementary or  
144 secondary school in the District of Columbia, as enumerated in Table 2 of Government  
145 Accountability Office Report 18-94 (entitled “Federal Actions Needed to Ensure Parents Are  
146 Notified About Changes in Rights for Students with Disabilities”), issued November 2017.

147 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

148 **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR PAY EQUITY FUND**

149 For a Federal payment to the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund, \$5,000,000, to  
150 remain available until expended, to cover the cost of supplemental payments for early childhood  
151 educators made to childcare centers sponsored by federal agencies.

152 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

153 For a Federal payment to the University of the District of Columbia, \$10,000,000, to  
154 remain available until expended, for enhancements to university research infrastructure.

155 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

156 For a Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, \$8,200,000, to  
157 remain available until expended, to support initiatives related to the coordination of Federal and  
158 local criminal justice resources in the District of Columbia, of which \$5,450,000 shall remain  
159 available until September 30, 2027, for costs associated with continued operation and  
160 modernization of the Justice Information System.

161 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS**

162 For a Federal payment, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to the Commission  
163 on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, \$598,000, and to the Judicial Nomination Commission,  
164 \$458,000.

165 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD**

166 For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia National Guard, \$600,000, to remain  
167 available until expended, for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia  
168 National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

169 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS**

170 For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for the testing of individuals for, and  
171 the treatment of individuals with, human immunodeficiency virus and acquired  
172 immunodeficiency syndrome in the District of Columbia, \$4,000,000.

173 **FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SECURITY COSTS**

174 **IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

175 For a Federal payment of necessary expenses, as determined by the Mayor of the District  
176 of Columbia in written consultation with the elected county or city officials of surrounding  
177 jurisdictions, \$71,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the costs of providing public  
178 safety at events related to the presence of the National Capital in the District of Columbia,  
179 including support requested by the Director of the United States Secret Service in carrying out  
180 protective duties under the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for the costs of  
181 providing support to respond to immediate and specific terrorist threats or attacks in the District  
182 of Columbia or surrounding jurisdictions.

183 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY**

184 For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority,  
185 \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended, to continue implementation of the Combined  
186 Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan; Provided, That the District of Columbia Water and  
187 Sewer Authority provides a 100 percent match for this payment.

188 **FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

189 For a Federal payment to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, to remain  
190 available until expended, \$158,000,000, for capital and preventive maintenance projects included  
191 in the Authority's Capital Improvement Plan and authorized under the Passenger Rail Investment  
192 and Improvement Act of 2008.

193           Sec. 3. Compensation of the Chief Financial Officer.

194           Section 424(b)(2)(E) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved April 17,  
195 1995 (109 Stat. 142; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.24b(b)(5)), is amended to read as follows:

196                           “(E) PAY.—The Chief Financial Officer shall be paid at the greater of:

197   “(i) A rate such that the total amount of compensation paid during  
198 any calendar year is equal to the limit on total pay which is applicable during the year under  
199 section 5307 of title 5, United States Code, to an employee described in section 5307(d) of such  
200 title; or

201   “(ii) A rate established in law by the District of Columbia;  
202 provided, that any rate established pursuant to this clause which is applicable to any individual  
203 serving as the Chief Financial Officer shall not be reduced during any period of that individual’s  
204 service as Chief Financial Officer.”.

205           Sec. 4. Federal Portion Budget Request Act Responsibilities.

206           The District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved April 17, 1995 (109 Stat. 142; D.C.  
207 Official Code § 1-201.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

208           (a) Section 442(a) (D.C. Official Code § 1-204.42(a)) is amended as follows:

209                           (1) The lead-in language is amended by striking the phrase “At such time as the  
210 Council may direct” and inserting the phrase “At such time and in such form as the Council may  
211 direct” in its place.

212                           (2) Paragraph (6) is amended by striking the phase “; and” and inserting a  
213 semicolon in its place.

214                           (3) A new paragraph (6A) is added to read as follows:

215                           “(6A) A proposed request for any federal resources the Mayor believes are

216 required to implement the District of Columbia budget and performance goals or to fulfill the  
217 federal government’s obligations to the District of Columbia or federal agencies or other entities  
218 that serve District of Columbia residents; and”.

219 (b) Section 446(a) (D.C. Official Code § 1-204.46(a)) is amended to read as follows:

220 “(a) Adoption of Budgets and Supplements - The Council, within 70 calendar days, or as  
221 otherwise provided by law, after receipt of a budget proposal from the Mayor, and after public  
222 hearing, and by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting, shall adopt the annual  
223 budget for the District of Columbia government. The annual budget shall consist of a local  
224 portion and a federal portion. The local portion, in which the Council appropriates funds, shall be  
225 adopted by act and shall be submitted by the Chairman of the Council to the Speaker of the  
226 House of Representatives and the President of the Senate pursuant to the procedure set forth in  
227 section 602(c). The federal portion, in which the Council requests the appropriation of federal  
228 funds and proposes the enactment of legislation by Congress, shall be adopted after a single  
229 reading and shall be submitted by the Chairman of the Council to the President for inclusion in  
230 the President’s budget without revision by the President but subject to the President’s  
231 recommendations. Any supplements to the annual budget shall be adopted by act of the Council,  
232 after public hearing, by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting.”.

233 Sec. 5. Contingency cash reserve transparency.

234 Section 450A(b)(5) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved November 22,  
235 2000 (114 Stat. 2440; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.50a(b)(5)), is amended as follows:

236 (1) The existing text is designated as subparagraph (A).

237 (2) A new subparagraph (B) is added to read as follows:

238 “(B) No funds in excess of \$500,000 shall be obligated or expended from

239 the contingency reserve fund unless such expenditures have been approved by the Council by  
240 resolution.”.

241           Sec. 6. Sales and use taxes.

242           Notwithstanding any other law, the following sales shall be subject to the sales and use  
243 taxes of the District of Columbia:

244                   (1) Sales at gift shops, souvenir shops, kiosks, convenience stores, food shops,  
245 cafeterias, restaurants, and similar establishments in federal buildings, including memorials and  
246 museums, in the District of Columbia that make sales to:

247                           (A) The general public, if operated by the federal government, an agent of  
248 the federal government, or a contractor; and

249                           (B) Other than the general public, if operated by an agent of the federal  
250 government or a contractor; and

251                   (2) Sales of goods and services by a government-sponsored enterprise or  
252 corporation, institution, or organization established by federal statute or regulation (“federal  
253 enterprise or organization”), including the Smithsonian Institution, National Gallery of Art,  
254 National Building Museum, Federal National Mortgage Association, and Federal Home Loan  
255 Mortgage Corporation, if the federal enterprise or organization is otherwise exempt from such  
256 taxation, to the extent such sales otherwise would be subject to the sales and use taxes of the  
257 District of Columbia if the federal enterprise or organization were organized as a nonprofit  
258 corporation established pursuant to Chapter 4 of Title 29 of the District of Columbia Official  
259 Code, and exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal  
260 Revenue Code of 1954, approved August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 163; 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3)).

261           Sec. 7. College Access inflation adjustment.

262 Section 3 of the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999, approved November  
263 12, 1999 (113 Stat. 1323; D.C. Official Code § 38–2702), is amended as follows:

264 (a) Subsection (a)(2) is amended as follows:

265 (1) Subparagraph (A) is amended by striking the figure “\$10,000” and inserting  
266 the figure “\$15,000” in its place.

267 (2) Subparagraph (B) is amended by striking the figure “\$50,000” and inserting  
268 the figure “\$75,000” in its place.

269 (b) Subsection (b)(1) is amended as follows:

270 (1) Subparagraph (A) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and inserting a  
271 semicolon in its place.

272 (2) A new subparagraph (A-i) is added to read as follows:

273 “(A-i) After making reductions under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph,  
274 ratably reduce the amount of the tuition and fee payment of each eligible student who receives  
275 more than \$10,000 for the award year; and”.

276 (3) Subparagraph (B) is amended by striking the phrase “subparagraph (A)” and  
277 inserting the phrase “subparagraphs (A) and (A-i)” in its place.

278 Sec. 8. Elections board expansion.

279 Section 3(a) of the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12,  
280 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.03(a)), is amended to read as follows:

281 “(a) There is created a District of Columbia Board of Elections (hereafter in this section  
282 referred to as the 'Board'), to be composed of 5 members, no more than 3 of whom shall be of the  
283 same political party, appointed by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council.

284 Members shall be appointed to serve for terms of 3 years; except, for the members first

285 appointed to bring the composition of the Board from 3 to 5 members, one shall be appointed to  
286 serve a 1-year term and one shall be appointed to serve a 2-year term running from the  
287 anniversary date for the appointment of the existing members.”.

288           Sec. 9. Judicial vacancies.

289           The District of Columbia Courts Judicial Vacancy Reduction Act, H.R. 483, 118th Cong.  
290 (2023), is enacted into law.

291           Sec. 10. Bureau of Prisons reporting.

292           The District of Columbia Code Returning Citizens Coordination Act, H.R. 1813, 118th  
293 Cong. (2023), is enacted into law.

294           Sec. 11. National Children’s Museum.

295           The National Children’s Museum Act, H.R. 5937, 118th Cong. (2023), is enacted into  
296 law

297           Sec. 12. Electronic transmission of legislation.

298           The District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 774;  
299 D.C. Official Code § 1-201.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

300           (a) Section 303(a) (D.C. Official Code § 1-203.03(a)) is amended by striking the phrase  
301 “in such referendum.” and inserting the phrase “in such referendum. The Chairman of the  
302 Council may submit an act under this subsection in such form as the Chairman may choose,  
303 including electronic form.” in its place.

304           (b) Section 602(c) (D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)), is amended by adding a new  
305 paragraph (4) to read as follows:

306           “(4) The Chairman of the Council may transmit an Act under this subsection in  
307 such form as the Chairman may choose, including electronic form.”.

308           Sec. 13. Public Defender Service budget submission.

309           The District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970, approved  
310 July 29, 1970 (Pub. L. 91-358; 84 Stat. 473), is amended as follows:

311           (a) Section 306(a) (D.C. Official Code § 2-1606(a)) is amended by striking the phrase “to  
312 the Congress of the United States, to the chief judges of the federal courts in the District of  
313 Columbia and of the District of Columbia courts, and to the Office of Management and Budget”  
314 and inserting the phrase “to the Mayor and Council of the District of Columbia, to the chief  
315 judges of the federal courts in the District of Columbia and of the District of Columbia courts, to  
316 the Congress of the United States, and to the Office of Management and Budget” in its place.

317           (b) Section 307(a) (D.C. Official Code § 2-1607(a)) is amended by striking the phrase “to  
318 the Office of Management and Budget” and inserting the phrase “to the Mayor and the Council  
319 of the District of Columbia and shall submit such request to Congress and the Director of the  
320 Office and Management and Budget after submitting it to the Mayor and the Council. All such  
321 requests shall be included in the budget without revision by the President but subject to the  
322 President’s recommendations” in its place.

323           Sec. 14. Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency budget submission.

324           Section 11233 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, approved August 5, 1997 (111 Stat.  
325 748; D.C. Official Code § 24-133), is amended as follows:

326           (a) Subsection (b)(2)(A) is amended to read as follows:

327                           “(A) Submit annual appropriation requests for the Agency to the Mayor  
328 and the Council of the District of Columbia and submit such requests to Congress and the  
329 Director of the Office and Management and Budget after submitting them to the Mayor and the  
330 Council. All such requests shall be included in the budget without revision by the President but

331 subject to the President’s recommendations.”.

332 (b) Subsection (e)(2) is amended by striking the phrase “to the Office of Management and  
333 Budget” and inserting the phrase “to the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia and  
334 shall submit such request to Congress and the Director of the Office and Management and  
335 Budget after submitting it to the Mayor and the Council” in its place.

336 Sec. 15. The federal funds for which appropriation by Congress is requested by this act  
337 constitute the federal portion of the Fiscal Year 2026 annual budget for the District of Columbia  
338 government under section 446(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved  
339 December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 801; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.46(a)).

340 Sec. 16. Fiscal impact statement.

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

344 Sec. 17. Effective date.

345 This act shall take effect as provided in section 446 of the District of Columbia Home  
346 Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 801; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.46).