

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to ensure that District of Columbia Public neighborhoods are safer by increasing private funding for violence intervention prevention efforts in high crime areas.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Community Violence Interruption Fund Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2018".

Sec. 2. (a) There exists an immediate need to ensure the safety of all District of Columbia residents, especially those who live in high crime areas. Violence intervention prevention efforts combat violence before it occurs.

(b) Over the past several months and especially in the past few days, there has been a surge in violent crime across the city. This past weekend left four people dead following 10 shootings. Compared to 2017, the number of homicides (year to date) in Ward 8 has increased by 72% with 18 homicides this time last year and compared with 31 this year. There is an immediate need to utilize resources in order to decrease violence in the summer immediately.

37 With the summer approaching, there is a need to prevent violence in the District now before
38 these statistics get worse.

39 (c) Violence interrupters and outreach workers to prevent shootings by identifying and
40 mediating potentially lethal conflicts in the community and following up to ensure that the
41 conflicts do not reignite. Trained, culturally-appropriate outreach workers work with the highest
42 risk individuals to make them less likely to commit violence by meeting them and talking to
43 them about the costs of using violence and helping them obtain social services. Violence
44 prevention workers also engage community members to get involved in violence prevention
45 efforts, making sure they have a stake in ensuring safety in their community as well.

46 (d) In order reduce the number of violent crimes in the District we must continue to
47 invest in efforts that will stop crime before it happens while also encouraging suspected
48 criminals of pursuing alternative lifestyles.

49 (e) Therefore, Council approval is necessary to ensure that violence is prevention is a
50 priority and work can be done to combat the increase in violence as soon as possible.

51 Sec. 3. The Council determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute
52 emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Community Violence Interruption Fund
53 Emergency Act of 2018 be adopted after a single reading.

54 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.