

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency, due to congressional review, with respect to officially designating the new middle school in Square 3269 as Wells Middle School, disapproving the Master Facilities Plan submitted by the Mayor to the Council, and amending the law with respect to the timing of approval of a master facilities plan.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Wells School Designation and Master Facilities Plan Disapproval Congressional Review Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. (a) There exists an immediate need to officially designate the new middle school in Square 3269 as the Ida B. Wells Middle School, to disapprove the Master Facilities Plan submitted by the Mayor to the Council, and to amend the law with respect to the timing of approval of a master facilities plan.

(b) DC Public Schools has requested that the name for the new middle school be adopted prior to the Council recess to enable it to install signage and complete the necessary steps to name the building Ida B. Wells Middle School in time for the 2019-2020 school year.

(c) The Committee of the Whole has disapproved the Master Facilities Plan submitted by the Mayor to the Council for a number of reasons in the hopes the plan will be revised and

34 contain additional detail requested by the Committee as detailed in the Committee Report for the
35 permanent measure.

36 (d) Current law states that a master facilities plan can only be adopted in conjunction with
37 a fiscal year budget which has just passed and will not be before the Council until 2020. In
38 addition, the law contemplates that the Council hold a hearing on a plan – the Committee of the
39 Whole and Committee on Education held a roundtable on the plan and not a hearing.

40 (e) Thus, the Master Facilities Plan cannot be approved or disapproved through the
41 resolution it was submitted with and must instead be approved or disapproved by Act.

42 (f) Bill 23-278, the “Wells School Designation and Master Facilities Plan Disapproval
43 Emergency Amendment Act of 2019” was adopted by the Council on July 9, 2019 (D.C. Act 23-
44 108) and will expire on October 28, 2019.

45 (g) Bill 23-216, the permanent version of the same measure, was adopted on second
46 reading by the Council on September 17, 2019, however, it has not yet been signed by the Mayor
47 or transmitted to Congress for its 30-day review.

48 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia finds that the circumstances enumerated
49 in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the “Wells School
50 Designation and Master Facilities Plan Disapproval Emergency Amendment Act of 2019” be
51 adopted after a single reading.

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