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2 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

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6 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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9 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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13 To declare the existence of an emergency, due to congressional review, with respect to
14 the need to require the Mayor to establish a pilot program through which a close
15 relative of a child may be eligible to receive subsidy payments for the care and
16 custody of a child, to establish eligibility requirements for the subsidy, to provide
17 that there is no entitlement to a subsidy and the payment of any subsidy is subject
18 to the availability or appropriations, to authorize the Mayor to issue rules to
19 implement provisions of the act, and to require the Mayor to issue a report to
20 Council evaluating the program.

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22 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That
23 this resolution may be cited as the “Close Relative Caregiver Subsidy Pilot Program
24 Establishment Congressional Review Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2019”.

25 Sec. 2. (a) The Grandparent Caregivers Program was first established in 2006 to
26 help provide stability to “grandfamilies”, families in which grandparents are taking care
27 of their grandkids, with financial support.

28 (b) Testimony provided during the performance oversight proceedings for the
29 Child and Family Services Agency (“CFSA”) demonstrated that a broader population of
30 kin caregivers exists in the District. One study from 2017 found that 9,000 District
31 children under 18 years of age were living in households led by relative caregivers that
32 were not grandparents.

1 (c) Furthermore, witnesses testified that many of these close relative caregivers
2 require immediate financial assistance to ensure that youth are afforded stability and are
3 not removed from a home with a close kinship relationship.

4 (d) The Fiscal Year 2020 Local Budget Act of 2019, approved on second reading,
5 includes funding for the establishment of a close relative caregiver subsidy pilot program
6 (“pilot program”), which became available on October 1, 2010, the first day of Fiscal
7 Year 2020.

8 (e) Emergency legislation is necessary to prevent a gap in the law as the:

9 (1) The previously approved “Close Relative Caregiver Subsidy Pilot
10 Program Establishment Emergency Amendment Act of 2019,” effective June 25, 2019, is
11 set to expire on October 14, 2019;

12 (2) The corresponding permanent legislation, B22-203, the “Close
13 Relative Caregivers Subsidies Amendment Act of 2019”, is currently under Mayoral
14 Review with no projected date to become law; and

15 (3) The corresponding temporary legislation, B22-358, “Close Relative
16 Caregiver Subsidy Pilot Program Establishment Temporary Amendment Act of 2019”, is
17 currently under Congressional Review and is projected to become law November 7,
18 2019.

19 (f) The emergency legislation will enable CFSA to continue planning for the
20 administration of the pilot program, including hiring of one full time equivalent.

21 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
22 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the

- 1 Close Relative Caregiver Subsidy Pilot Program Establishment Congressional Review
- 2 Emergency Amendment Act of 2019 be adopted after a single reading.
- 3 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.