

Council of the District of Columbia
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER ELISSA SILVERMAN
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

FROM: Councilmember Elissa Silverman 

RE: Request to Agendize Measures for the October 20, 2020, Additional Legislative Meeting

DATE: October 14, 2020

Congressional Review Emergency Legislation

I request that the following congressional review emergency measures be agendized for the October 20, 2020 Additional Legislative Meeting:

- **“Protecting Businesses and Workers from COVID-19 Congressional Review Emergency Amendment Act of 2020”**
- **“Protecting Businesses and Workers from COVID-19 Congressional Review Emergency Declaration Resolution Act of 2020”**

This legislation would require, on an emergency basis, that employers adopt and implement policies that adhere to Mayor’s Order 2020-080 or subsequent Mayor’s Order that require the wearing of face masks, and to prohibit retaliation against an employee who refuses to work with or serve an individual who refuses to comply with Mayor’s Order 2020-080 or subsequent Mayor’s Order, or for other reasons.

Emergency legislation is necessary to prevent a gap in the law as the: (1) the previously approved Protecting Businesses and Workers from COVID-19 Emergency Amendment Act of 2020, effective August 13, 2020, is set to expire on November 10, 2020; and (2) the corresponding temporary legislation, the Protecting Businesses and Workers from COVID-19 Temporary Amendment Act of 2020, passed on 2nd reading on September 22, 2020 (Enrolled version of Bill 23-871) will shortly be transmitted to the mayor for Mayoral Review.

The emergency Act created important COVID-19-related workers’ rights, protections against retaliation if they take steps to protect their health and safety, and enforcement mechanisms; and it authorized additional resources for businesses to purchase personal protective equipment during the COVID-19 public health emergency

Please contact Liz Weiss, Committee Director, at lweiss@dccouncil.us or (202) 717-1974 if you have any questions.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia
Office of the Secretary
Office of the General Counsel

Office of the Budget Director
Mayor's Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs