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2 Chairman Phil Mendelson

Councilmember Charles Allen

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6 Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

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9 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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14 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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19 To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Fiscal Year 2021
20 Budget Support Act of 2020, the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support Congressional Review
21 Emergency Amendment Act of 2020, the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support Clarification
22 Emergency Amendment Act of 2020, and the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support
23 Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2020 to clarify returning citizens' eligibility
24 to apply for financial assistance for District residents impacted by the public health
25 emergency.

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27 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
28 resolution may be cited as the "Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support Additional Clarification
29 Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020".

30 Sec. 2. (a) In the District's Fiscal Year 2021 budget, the Council identified \$9 million that
31 the Washington Convention and Sports Authority ("Events DC") was to use to provide financial
32 assistance for District residents who are not eligible for traditional unemployment benefits or for
33 other financial benefits that the District and federal government had identified during the COVID-
34 19 public health emergency.

35 (b) Among the populations eligible for financial assistance from Events DC is District
36 residents who have recently been released from incarceration; because the Council intended for

37 the funds identified for financial assistance to provide relief for those who had been impacted by
38 the COVID-19 pandemic, returning citizens were required to apply for benefits within 6 months
39 of release from incarceration.

40 (c) On November 10, 2020, the Council approved the Greater Washington Community
41 Foundation Excluded Worker Relief Emergency Approval Resolution of 2020, effective
42 November 10, 2020 (R23-593; __ DCR __), which approved a contract between Events DC and
43 the Greater Washington Community Foundation to disperse the \$9 million that the Council
44 identified for Events DC to provide financial assistance.

45 (d) Because the contract between Events DC and the Greater Washington Community
46 Foundation was only recently approved, currently no applications have been made for assistance
47 from Events DC, and it is possible that applications may not be available until December.

48 (e) District residents released from incarceration in the early stages of the pandemic were
49 not able to apply for assistance within 6 months of release, because, through no fault of their
50 own, the application was not available—clearly contrary to the Council’s intent.

51 (f) Approving emergency and temporary legislation clarifying that any District resident
52 who was released from incarceration on or after March 11, 2020, the date the Mayor Bowser
53 declared a public health emergency, will ensure that when the Community Foundation of Greater
54 Washington opens applications, all District residents who were released from incarceration during
55 the current public health emergency will be eligible to apply for financial assistance.

56 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
57 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Fiscal
58 Year 2021 Budget Support Additional Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2020 be
59 adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.