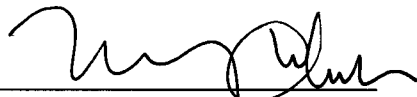
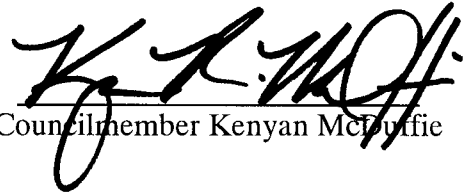


1 

2 Councilmember Mary Cheh

3 

4 Councilmember Jim Graham

5 

6 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie

7  
8  
9 A BILL

10  
11 \_\_\_\_\_  
12  
13 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
14  
15 \_\_\_\_\_  
16  
17

18 Councilmembers Graham, Cheh, and introduced the following bill, which was  
19 referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_.  
20  
21

22 To amend the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005 to require the Interagency Council on  
23 Homelessness to clarify in its Winter Plans that the right to hypothermia shelter applies to  
24 all District residents who are homeless, including unaccompanied minors, to require the  
25 Interagency Council to prepare and submit to the Council a comprehensive Plan to End  
26 Youth Homelessness in the District by 2020, to provide that the Continuum of Care shall  
27 include comprehensive, age-appropriate supportive services for children and youth, to  
28 require the Department of Human Services to establish a new grant program to fund  
29 street outreach, to require the Department of Human Services to conduct an extended  
30 youth count, to require the Mayor to operate a coordinated system for entering youth into  
31 the District's network of shelters, housing and services, and to require additional funding  
32 for the Continuum of Care.  
33

34 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
35 act may be cited as the "End Youth Homelessness Amendment Act of 2014".

36 Sec. 2. The Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C.  
37 Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-751.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

38 (a) Section 5(b)(9) (D.C. Official Code § 4-752.02(b)(9)) is amended to read as follows:

39 "(9) By September 1 of each year, develop a plan, consistent with the right of all  
40 District residents who are homeless and cannot access other housing arrangements, including

1 unaccompanied minors, to shelter in severe weather conditions, describing how member  
2 agencies will coordinate to provide hypothermia shelter, identifying the specific sites that will be  
3 used as hypothermia shelters; and ensuring that no homeless unaccompanied minor is in danger  
4 of hypothermia regardless of resources.”.

5 (b) A new section 5a is added to read as follows:

6 “Sec. 5a. Plan to end youth homelessness in the District by 2020.

7 “(a) No later than 300 days after the effective date of the End Youth Homelessness  
8 Amendment Act of 2014, the Interagency Council, working jointly with organizations providing  
9 service to homeless youth within the Continuum of Care as well as homeless or formerly  
10 homeless youth and their advocates, shall prepare, publish, and submit to the Council a  
11 comprehensive Plan to End Youth Homelessness in the District by 2020.

12 “(b) The plan required by this section shall:

13 “(1) Include a community-wide needs assessment that takes into account existing  
14 data, including the results of the extended youth count required in section 7(h);

15 “(2) Include an analysis of strategies that have been successful in reducing youth  
16 homelessness;

17 “(3) Be developed pursuant to a process that includes public hearings and that  
18 will identify, prioritize, and target needs for services for homeless youth within the Continuum of  
19 Care;

20 “(4) Include specific recommendations for eradicating youth homelessness in the  
21 District by 2020, including recommendations for:

22 “(A) A grant-based family reunification program, a host-home program,  
23 and additional cultural competency training for youth homeless service workers, including intake

1 and drop-in center workers, designed to inform such workers adequately concerning the  
2 developmental needs of homeless youth; and

3                   “(B) Other specific culturally-competent and language-accessible  
4 programs designed to prevent youth from becoming homeless, identify youth that are homeless  
5 or at risk of becoming homeless, and provide counseling, shelter and appropriate services to the  
6 youth so identified (including minor heads of households and minors temporarily without  
7 parental supervision); and

8                   “(5) Include estimates of the costs of carrying out various components of the  
9 plan.

10                  “(c) The plan required by this section shall identify any new legislation that is necessary  
11 to implement its recommendations, and provide recommendations concerning how to fund the  
12 provisions of the plan without reducing funding for other social programs.

13                  “(d) The Interagency Council shall revise and submit to the Council the strategic plan  
14 required by section 5(b)(2) no later than 390 days after the effective date of the End Youth  
15 Homelessness Amendment Act of 2014, incorporating the provisions of the plan required by this  
16 section.”.

17                  (c) Section 7 (D.C. Official Code § 4-753.01) is amended as follows:

18                         (1) Subsection (a) is amended by striking the phrase “becoming homeless.” and  
19 inserting the phrase “becoming homeless. To the extent that such care includes services for  
20 families and youth, including youth heads of households and unaccompanied minors, providers  
21 shall recognize and meet the developmental needs of children and youth by providing supportive  
22 services for such individuals that are comprehensive, age-appropriate, culturally-competent, and  
23 language-accessible.” in its place.

1 (2) New subsections (g) and (h) are added to read as follows:

2 “(g) No later than 300 days after the effective date of the End Youth Homelessness  
3 Amendment Act of 2014, the Department of Human Services shall establish a program of street  
4 outreach designed to identify youth who are in need of immediate shelter, or who need respite,  
5 basic resources, or referrals to other providers.

6 “(h) No later than 180 days after the effective date of the End Youth Homelessness  
7 Amendment Act of 2014, the Department of Human Services shall conduct and complete an  
8 extended youth count to determine the needed scale and scope of a comprehensive program to  
9 end youth homelessness in the District.”.

10 (d) Section 8 (c) (D.C. Official Code § 4-753.02) is amended by adding a new paragraph  
11 (1C) to read as follows:

12 “(1C) No later than 180 days after the effective date of the End Youth  
13 Homelessness Amendment Act of 2014, the Mayor shall establish a coordinated system for  
14 entering homeless youth into the District’s network of shelters and transitional housing and for  
15 providing services to homeless youth, including a system for tracking outcomes, utilization rates  
16 and turn-aways across service providers, coordinating as necessary with the intake centers  
17 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection.”.

18 (e) A new section 8c is added to read as follows:

19 “Sec. 8c. Additional funding for Continuum of Care.

20 “Beginning in fiscal year 2015 and for each fiscal year thereafter, an additional \$10  
21 million shall be included in the budget for the Department of Human Services to implement the  
22 recommendations in the Plan to End Youth Homelessness prepared pursuant to section 5a.”:

23 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

1           The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
2 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,  
3 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

4           Sec.4. Effective date.

5           This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
6 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as  
7 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
8 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of  
9 Columbia Register.