


Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1 To amend Self Storage Act of 2003 to allow the operator of self-service storage facility to enforce
2 the lien on a vehicle, watercraft, or trailer stored by having it towed from the self-service
3 storage facility by a licensed tow truck business, to allow the operator of self-service
4 storage facility to send a second notice of default to the occupant at the occupant’s last
5 known address by U.S. mail with a certificate of mailing, to allow the operator of self-
6 service storage facility to advertise the time, place, and terms of the lien sale on a publicly
7 accessible website that regularly advertises or conducts property sales, and to allow the lien
8 sale to be conducted online.

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10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
11 act may be cited as the “Self Storage Lien Enforcement Modernization Amendment Act of 2023”.

12 Sec. 2. Section 5 of the Self Storage Act of 2003, effective February 6, 2004 (D.C. Law
13 15-64; D.C. Official Code § 40–404), is amended as follows:

14 (a) Paragraph (a)(1) is amended by striking the period and adding the phrase “; or, if the
15 personal property subject to the operator’s lien is a vehicle, watercraft, or trailer, the operator
16 may have the vehicle, watercraft, or trailer towed from the self-service storage facility by a

17 licensed tow truck business. The operator shall not be liable for any damages to the vehicle,
18 watercraft, or trailer once a licensed tow truck business takes possession of the property.” in its
19 place.

20 (b) Subsection (b) is amended as follows:

21 (1) Paragraph (b)(2) is amended to read as follows:

22 “(2) Send a second notice of default by certified mail, return receipt
23 requested, or by U.S. mail with a certificate of mailing, to the occupant at the occupant’s last
24 known address which includes:”.

25 (2) Subparagraph (b)(2)(D) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and
26 inserting the phrase “, or, if the personal property is a vehicle, watercraft, or trailer, that the
27 operator may have the vehicle, watercraft, or trailer, towed from the self-service storage facility;
28 and” in its place.

29 (3) Paragraph (b)(3) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase “or
30 on a publicly accessible website that regularly advertises or conducts property sales.” in its place.

31 (b) Subsection (d) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase “, or on a
32 publicly accessible website that conducts property sales.” in its place.

33 (c) Subparagraph (i)(2)(A) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase “or
34 another address specified in the rental agreement, if provided.” in its place.

35 (d) Subsection (j) is amended to read as follows:

36 “(j) The operator shall retain a copy of the second notice of default and the return
37 receipt or certificate of mailing as provided in subsection (b)(2) of this section for 6 months
38 following the date of the lien sale.”.

39 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

40 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement as the fiscal impact statement in the
41 committee report as required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
42 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

43 Sec. 4. Effective date.

44 This act shall take effect upon its approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
45 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
46 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
47 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
48 Columbia Register.