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2 Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

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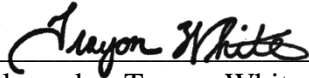
4 Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

5 

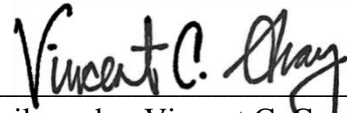
6 Councilmember Charles Allen

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8 Councilmember Anita Bonds

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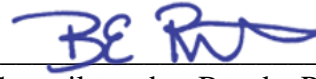
10 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

11 

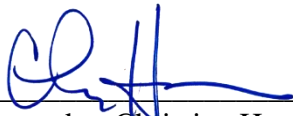
12 Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

13 

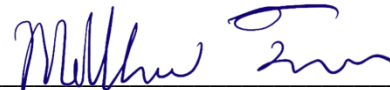
14 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

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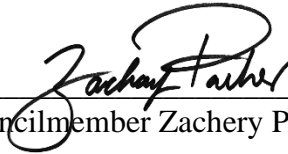
16 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

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18 Councilmember Christina Henderson

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20 Councilmember Matthew Frumin

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22 Councilmember Zachery Parker

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30 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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32 _____
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34 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

35
36 _____
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38 To recognize the history and the importance of DC Black Pride, to celebrate the efforts of
39 the Center for Black Equity, and to welcome visitors from the greater Washington
40 region, across the country, and around the world to the festivities.

41
42 WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is an annual event to increase awareness of and
43 showcase pride in the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ populations in the African American
44 community, and to support organizations that focus on health disparities, education,
45 youth, and families;

47 WHEREAS, from 1975 until 1990, the Club House was a premiere community
48 gathering space for the African-American lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
49 community of Washington, DC and was notable for its annual Memorial Day weekend
50 celebration, called the Children’s Hour;

51
52 WHEREAS, Wilmore Cook, Theodore Kirkland, and Ernest Hopkins envisioned
53 creating an event that would continue the tradition of the Children’s Hour as well as raise
54 much-needed funds for the HIV/AIDS organizations that served the African American
55 community after the Club House closed its doors in 1990;

56
57 WHEREAS, with the Children’s Hour as inspiration, the inaugural DC Black
58 Pride was held on May 25, 1991 in cooperation with the DC Coalition of Black Lesbians
59 and Gay Men and the Inner-City AIDS Network on the grounds of Banneker Field;

60
61 WHEREAS, as DC Black Pride grew in popularity and in programmatic
62 offerings, organizers created a board of directors, created a 501(c)3 nonprofit
63 organization, and officially established the Black Lesbian & Gay Pride Day, Inc.;

64
65 WHEREAS, since the birth of DC Black Pride, more than 50 other Black Pride
66 celebrations now take place throughout the world and on four continents, with many
67 using DC Black Pride as a model;

68
69 WHEREAS, during the 1998 festival, Black Lesbian & Gay Pride Day, Inc., and
70 organizers of Black Prides from New York City, Detroit, Atlanta and several other cities
71 formed the International Federation of Black Prides;

72
73 WHEREAS, the International Federation of Black Prides later became the Center
74 for Black Equity, and today the organization has more that 50 members and serves as the
75 principal body through which organizers find support, raise funds, and share best
76 practices;

77
78 WHEREAS, May 26, 2023 through May 29, 2023, marks the 32nd annual DC
79 Black Pride celebration;

80
81 WHEREAS, the theme for this year’s celebration is “Know Your Past, Live Your
82 Present, Fight for Your Future”;

83
84 WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, DC Black Pride has been an opportunity for
85 the Black LGBTQIA+ community to gather and celebrate being both African American
86 and members of LGBTQIA+ communities;

87
88 WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is the oldest and one of the largest Black Pride
89 events in the world, drawing thousands of residents and visitors from around the globe;
90 and

91

92 WHEREAS, DC Black Pride brings more than 500,000 people to the nation's
93 capital from across the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain,
94 France, Germany, and the Netherlands and will carry that tradition this year and into the
95 future to celebrate their shared community, raise awareness and funding for HIV/AIDS
96 prevention, and stand against homophobia inspired by violence and bigotry.

97
98 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that
99 this resolution be cited as the “DC Black Pride Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

100
101 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the hard
102 work of everyone involved in organizing the 32nd annual DC Black Pride and the
103 opportunity to celebrate the Black LGBTQIA+ community.

104
105 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of
106 publication in the District of Columbia Register.