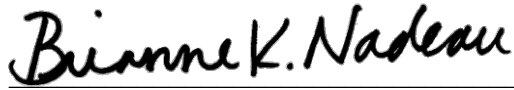


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4 Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie




Councilmember Brooke Pinto

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9 Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau



Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

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14 Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

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19 Councilmember Zachary Parker



Councilmember Charles Allen

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Councilmember Anita Bonds

27 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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32 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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36 To recognize and declare September 2023 to be Service Dog Month in the District of Columbia.

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38 WHEREAS, service dogs are trained to assist individuals with disabilities in essential
39 daily tasks, increasing independence and improving quality of life;

40 WHEREAS, service dogs perform essential tasks, such as guiding people with visual
41 impairments, signaling sounds for those who are deaf, retrieving items for those with mobility
42 issues, and alerting about impending health episodes;

43 WHEREAS, to support individuals with disabilities, businesses and nonprofits open to
44 the public and state and local governments are required to allow service dogs to go most places
45 members of the public can go;

46 WHEREAS, in the United States, 64 million adults and children have a disability,
47 including more than 116,000 adults in the District;

48 WHEREAS, only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs exist
49 nationwide and the need is growing;

50 WHEREAS, public understanding of service dogs' training, tasks, and importance can
51 improve service dogs' ability to provide assistance;

52 WHEREAS, Service Dog Month aims to educate our community about the benefits of
53 service dogs and the laws protecting them; and

54 WHEREAS, the District of Columbia continues to work toward becoming an inclusive
55 community in which all citizens, and their service dogs, are embraced fully in social and
56 economic life.

57 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
58 resolution may be cited as the "Service Dog Month Recognition Resolution of 2023".

59 Sec. 2. The Council recognizes September 2023 as Service Dog Month in the District of
60 Columbia, in support of individuals with disabilities' right to use service dogs and in recognition
61 of service dogs and the support and services they provide to adults and children with disabilities
62 in our community.

63 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
64 the District of Columbia Register.