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Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

Councilmember Elissa Silverman

Councilmember Anita Bonds

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

A BILL



IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



To amend the Small, Local, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Development and Assistance Act of 2005 to create a living wage certification program within the Department of Small and Local Business Development, to certify on a voluntary basis any District employer that pays its employees a living wage.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Living Wage Certification Program Amendment Act of 2017”.

Sec. 2. Part B of the Small, Local, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Development and Assistance Act of 2005, effective October 20, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-33; D.C. Official Code § 2-218.21 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

45 (a) A new section 2315 is added to read as follows:

46 “Sec. 2315. Living Wage Certification Program.

47 “(a) There is established a Living Wage Certification Program within the
48 Department.

49 “(b) The Department shall create a program to voluntarily certify employers that
50 pay their employees, including independent contractors, a living wage, as defined under the
51 Living Wage Act of 2006, effective June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-118; D.C. Official Code § 2–
52 220.01. *et seq.*).

53 “(c) The program shall be open to any employer that:

54 “(1) Maintains its primary office in the District;

55 “(2) Possesses a current license pursuant to Chapter 28 of Title 47;

56 “(3) Has certified that either the majority owners are District residents or
57 51% or more of its employees are District residents; and

58 “(4) Is registered with the Department.

59 “(d) The Department shall create a unique logo designating approved employers
60 as a certified living wage company, and provide approved employers with digital and physical
61 copies of the logo for display and promotional purposes. The Department shall list all approved
62 employers in a directory of living wage certified businesses on the Department’s website.

63 “(e) Employers that voluntarily apply for certification under this program shall
64 agree to provide the Department with sufficient employment records to certify its employees are
65 paid a living wage.

66 “(f) Certified employers shall reapply for certification every three years; however
67 certified employers shall still paying a living wage in the intervening years. Certified employers

68 shall have three months to increase their employees' wages to match any increase in the living
69 wage mandated under the Living Wage Act of 2006.

70 “(g) Where practicable, the Department shall consider combining the certification
71 and recertification application process with the Made in DC program, established under the
72 Made in DC Program Establishment Act of 2016, effective July 1, 2016 (D.C. Law 21-135; D.C.
73 Official Code § 2-1208.32. *et seq.*).

74 “(h) The Mayor, pursuant to Title I of the District of Columbia Administrative
75 Procedure Act, approved October 21, 1968 (82 Stat. 1204; D.C. Official Code § 2-501 *et seq.*),
76 shall issue rules to implement the provisions of this section.”

77 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

81 Sec. 4. Effective date.

82 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
83 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
84 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
85 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)) and publication in the District of
86 Columbia Register.