

AN ACT

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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*Codification  
District of  
Columbia  
Official Code*

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To amend, on a temporary basis, An Act To provide for compulsory school attendance, for the taking of a school census in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, to require the Board of Education to adopt uniform standards for the use of class exclusions as a disciplinary measure for students so as to provide a safe environment for all students while ensuring that out-of-school suspensions are not the primary method of discipline, and to require the Mayor to make resources available for support programs to reach students at their school during the class exclusion period, except for those students who may be a danger to the school's faculty, students, or others, to ensure that students meet the minimum attendance requirements of the act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Class Exclusion Standards Temporary Amendment Act of 2007".

Sec. 2. Article II of An Act To provide for compulsory school attendance, for the taking of a school census in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, approved February 4, 1925 (43 Stat. 806; D.C. Official Code § 38-202 *et seq.*), is amended by adding a new section 1a to read as follows:

"Sec. 1a. Establishment of standards for class exclusions and suspensions.

"(a) The Board of Education ("Board") shall adopt uniform disciplinary standards:

"(1) To determine when class exclusions will be the appropriate disciplinary measure for students;

"(2) To promote the education of students in the school, except for those students who may be a danger to the school's faculty, students, or others, where the student was placed prior to disciplinary action, and that prioritize consideration of the student's academic standing, the educational needs of the students, and the number of previous offenses.

"(b) The standards adopted under subsection (a) of this section shall include a progressive schedule of discipline which promotes the goal of in-class education for students subject to disciplinary action, beginning with in-class intervention strategies and ending with expulsion as the final and most extreme form of discipline, and to the extent consistent with this progressive schedule, it shall be the policy of the District of Columbia to prefer in-school disciplinary action, except for those students who may be a danger to the school's faculty,

students, or others.

“(c) The Board shall require a monthly report of disciplinary measures taken by each school regarding class exclusions and suspensions, including the rationale for the particular choice of discipline.

“(d) The Mayor shall provide for comprehensive inter-agency collaborative support programs, such as programs offered by the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Human Services, the Child and Family Services Agency, and the Department of Parks and Recreation, to assist the student subject to class exclusion at the school, except for those students who may be a danger to the school’s faculty, students, or others, where the student was placed prior to the disciplinary action.

“(e) The Mayor shall make resources available to support the programs in subsection (d) of this section within the context of appropriated funds within the budget and financial plan.”.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

Sec. 4. Effective date.

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

(b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.

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Chairman  
Council of the District of Columbia

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Mayor  
District of Columbia