# ENROLLMENT(S)



(5)

# COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

#### **NOTICE**

#### D.C. LAW 11-206

"Paternity Acknowledgment and Gas Station Advisory Board Re-establishment Temporary Act of 1996".

Pursuant to Section 412 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P.L. 93-198 "the Act", the Council of the District of Columbia adopted Bill No. 11-748, on first and second readings, July 3, 1996 and July 17, 1996, respectively. Following the signature of the Mayor on August 5, 1996, pursuant to Section 404(e) of "the Act", and was assigned Act No. 11-378, and published in the August 30, 1996, edition of the D.C. Register (Vol. 43 page 4684) and transmitted to Congress on January 15, 1997 for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602(c)(1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional Review Period has expired, and therefore, cites this enactment as D.C. Law 11-206, effective April 9, 1997.

CHARLENE DREW JARVIS

Chairman Pro Tempore of the Council

<u>Dates Counted During the 30-day Congressional Review Period:</u>

Feb.

3,4,5,6,7,10,11,12,13,24,25,26,27,28

Mar.

3,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,14,17,18,19,20,21

Apr.

7.8

#### AN ACT

# D.C. ACT 11-378

Codification
District of
Columbia
Code
1997 Supp.

# IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AUGUST 5, 1996

To amend, on a temporary basis, Chapter 9 of Title 16 of the District of Columbia Code to require each public and private birthing hospital in the District of Columbia to operate a hospital-based program that provides services to facilitate the voluntary acknowledgment of paternity immediately before and after the birth of a child to an unmarried woman, to require each birthing hospital to transmit completed voluntary acknowledgment of paternity forms to the Mayor, and to require the Mayor to provide to the staff of each birthing hospital the forms, materials, and training required to operate the program; and to amend the Retail Service Station Act of 1976 to re-establish the Gas Station Advisory Board.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Paternity Acknowledgment and Gas Station Advisory Board Reestablishment Temporary Act of 1996".

#### TITLE I - PATERNITY ACKNOWLEDGMENT PROGRAM

Sec. 101. This title may be cited as the "Paternity Acknowledgment Temporary Act of 1996".

Sec. 102. Chapter 9 of Title 16 of the District of Columbia Code is amended as follows:

(a) The table of contents is amended by adding the phrase "16-909.3. Paternity acknowledgment program requirements for birthing hospitals.".

Note, New Section 16-909.3

- (b) A new section 16-909.3 is added to read as follows:
- "Sec. 16-909.3. Paternity acknowledgment program requirements for public and private birthing hospitals.
- "(a) For the purposes of this section the term "birthing hospital" shall mean a hospital that has an obstetric care unit or provides obstetric services, or a birthing center associated with a hospital.
- "(b)(1) Each public and private birthing hospital in the District of Columbia shall operate a hospital-based program that, immediately before and after the birth of a child, provides to each unmarried woman who gives birth at the hospital and the putative father, if

present in the hospital:

- "(A) Written materials concerning paternity establishment;
- "(B) Forms necessary to voluntarily acknowledge paternity;
- "(C) A written description of the rights and responsibilities of

establishing paternity;

- "(D) The opportunity to speak, either by telephone or in person, with staff who are trained to clarify information and answer questions about paternity establishment; and
- "(E) The opportunity to voluntarily acknowledge paternity in the hospital.
- "(2) The Mayor shall provide to each birthing hospital the materials, in sufficient amounts to be distributed to all concerned parties under this act, described in paragraphs (1)(A) through (C) of this subsection.
  - "(c) The birthing hospital shall:
- "(1) Afford the mother and putative father, if present in the hospital, due process safeguards;
- "(2) Inform the mother and alleged putative father, if present in the hospital, that each is required to sign the voluntary acknowledgement of paternity form to effectuate the voluntary acknowledgement of paternity; and
- "(3) Inform the mother and alleged putative father, if present in the hospital, that their signatures on the voluntary acknowledgement of paternity form must be authenticated by a notary or witness to effectuate the voluntary acknowledgement of paternity; and
  - "(4) Provide for the services of a notary on the premises of the birthing hospital.
- "(d) The birthing hospital shall transmit each completed voluntary acknowledgement of paternity form to the Mayor within 14 days of completion. The Mayor shall promptly record identifying information from the form and permit the child support enforcement agency for the District timely access to the identifying information and any other documentation recorded from the form that the child enforcement agency needs to determine if a voluntary acknowledgment of paternity has been recorded or to seek a support order on the basis of the recorded voluntary acknowledgement of paternity.
- "(e) The Mayor shall provide to staff of each birthing hospital training, guidance, and written instructions necessary to operate the paternity acknowledgment program required by this section.
  - "(f) The Mayor shall access the program of each birthing hospital each year.".

TITLE II - GAS STATION ADVISORY BOARD RE-ESTABLISHMENT Sec. 201. This title may be cited as the "Gas Station Advisory Board Re-establishment Temporary Act of 1996".

Sec. 202. Section 5-301(e) of the Retail Service Station Act of 1976, effective April 19, Note, Section 10-231

- 1977 (D.C. Law 1-123; D.C. Code § 10-231(e)), is amended to read as follows:
- "(e) (1) Within 30 days of the effective date of the Paternity Acknowledgment Emergency Act of 1996, the Mayor shall appoint a Gas Station Advisory Board to make recommendations on petitions for exemptions. The Board shall consist of 5 members as follows: 1 representing the retail service station dealers; 1 representing the oil companies; 2 representing the consumer interests; and 1 representing the Mayor.
- "(2) The Board shall establish and publish, for 30 days comment, the rules and procedures which shall govern its conduct.
- "(3) The Board may establish and publish, for 30 days comment, additional criteria which shall be used in reviewing the petitions for exemptions.
  - "(4) The Board shall cease to exist on October 1, 1999.".

## TITLE III - FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Sec. 301. Enactment of the "Paternity Acknowledgement Emergency Declaration Resolution of 1996", the "Paternity Acknowledgement Emergency Amendment Act of 1996" ("Emergency Act"), and temporary and permanent versions of the Emergency Act will ensure that the District government remains eligible for approximately \$13 million in federal funds used in the collection of child support payments from noncustodial parents for the care of children who reside in the District.

#### TITLE IV - EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 401. (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), approval by the Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority as provided in section 203(a) of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority Act of 1995, approved April 17, 1995 (109 Stat. 116; D.C. Code § 47-392.3(a)), and a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-233(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

Chairman Tempore

Council of the District of Columbia

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

Malyor

District of Columbia

APPROVED: August 5, 1996



### COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

#### COUNCIL PERIOD ELEVEN

#### RECORD OF OFFICIAL COUNCIL VOTE

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Secretary to the Council