

**A RESOLUTION**

**Proposed  
Resolution  
20-226**

*See*  
**Emergency  
D.C. Act 20-65  
20 DCStat 1414**

*To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to clarify eligibility requirements and travel restriction provisions in the School Transit Subsidy Act of 1978 to ensure the prompt establishment of a foster youth transit subsidy program.*

**Foster Youth  
Transit  
Subsidy  
Emergency  
Declaration  
Resolution of  
2013**

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Foster Youth Transit Subsidy Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2013”.

Sec. 2. (a) The District’s foster youth transit subsidy program (“Program”) was originally created and funded by the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Support Act of 2012, effective September 20, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-168; 59 DCR 8025).

(b) The Program, which was established to provide subsidized transit passes to foster youth ages 19 and 20 years for travel to work and school, has not yet been implemented because several technical and clarifying amendments to the enabling legislation are required.

(c) Current law allows transit subsidies only for foster youth under the age of 19 years travelling for educational purposes.

(d) The original intent of the legislation was to allow foster youth ages 19 and 20 years to travel for both educational and employment purposes.

(e) This emergency legislation amends the enabling law to comport with its original intent, as seeking and maintaining employment is a common challenge that foster youth face in achieving independence, and the availability of subsidized transit passes would greatly aid in solving this challenge.

(f) Further, since most foster youth already qualify for the student transit subsidy until the age of 18 years, the Program fills a gap in assistance when foster youth ages 19 and 20 years are close to becoming legally independent adults.

(g) Given that the Program was authorized and budgeted to start on October 1, 2012, it is critical that enabling legislation be amended as soon as possible to implement the program as it was originally intended.

(h) The District Department of Transportation and the Child and Family Services Agency are coordinating their efforts and have a clear implementation strategy to ensure that the Program starts as soon as this legislation takes effect.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Foster Youth Transit Subsidy Emergency Amendment Act of 2013 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.