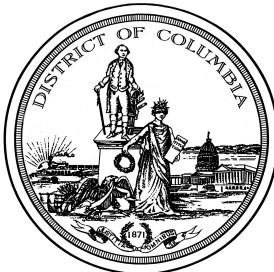


DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

City Council



Ordinance No. 29-0014

Introduced by: Deputy Mayor v0idedghost
On behalf of Mayor Bathamza

An ordinance for an Act entitled: "Establishment of the D.C. Secretary of State."

AN ACT to create the position of Secretary of State and define its powers.

TITLE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 101 – General Provisions.

- a. This Act shall be known as the "Establishment of the D.C. Secretary of State."
- b. The doctrine of severability as recognized by common law shall be applied to this Act if any portion is found unconstitutional or invalid.
- c. This Act shall take effect immediately upon passage into law.
- d. Any act conflicting with this piece of legislation shall be repealed and replaced by this legislation.

TITLE II – OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Section 201 – Establishment

- a. There shall be a Secretary of State and Deputy Secretary of State, civil offices, appointed by the D.C Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council of the District of Columbia.
- b. The Secretary of State shall be the head of the Department of State.
- c. During the absence or disability of the Secretary of State, the Deputy Secretary of State, or if he shall be absent or under disability, shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the Secretary of State.
- d. The Secretary of State shall be responsible for:
 - i. Managing and conducting all foreign affairs of the District of Columbia.
 - ii. Representing the District in official communications and negotiations with foreign governments, municipalities, and international organizations, with Council oversight.
 - iii. Establishing and maintaining diplomatic missions, consulates, and international partnerships, subject to Council approval.
 - iv. Advising the Mayor and Council on matters of foreign policy, diplomacy, and international relations.
 - v. Coordinating exchanges with foreign entities
 - vi. Performing such other foreign-affairs-related duties as may be assigned by the Mayor or established by law.
- e. The Secretary of State shall have the authority to retain any number of administrative staff to assist in executing their duties and may delegate any authority made in this Act to any employee of the Secretary of State.

Section 202 – Limitations.

- a. All treaties, compacts, or binding agreements entered into by the Secretary must receive majority approval of the City Council before ratification.
- b. The Mayor shall have final authority over all foreign affairs conducted by the Secretary of State.
- c. Any decision, negotiation, or agreement by the Secretary is subject to the Mayor's approval and may be overridden, amended, or revoked by the Mayor at any time.

Section 203. Tenure; Removal.

- a. The Secretary of State and Deputy Secretary of State shall serve an indefinite tenure, until their death, resignation, dismissal by the Mayor, or upon an Impeachment for, and

Conviction, by a super majority of the council, found to have engaged in one of the following::

- i. Severe inactivity;
- ii. Abuse of their official capacity for personal or political gain;
- iii. Gross misconduct that's recognized by the common law of the United States;
- iv. Treason;
- v. Bribery;
- vi. or other high Crimes; and
- vii. Misdemeanors.

Section 204. Council Reports.

- a. The Secretary of State shall provide a report to the Council of the District of Columbia and the Mayor on the work of the Office of the Secretary of State every fourteen (14) days.
 - i. Not submitting such reports constitutes direct "severe inactivity" as defined as an impeachable offense in section 203.

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