

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

City Council



Ordinance No. 29-0003

Introduced by: Councilman ElijahJunaid

An ordinance for an Act entitled: “District Honors Amendment Act of 2025”

AN ACT to amend the District Honors Act of 2024 to authorize City Council members to nominate individuals for honors and to establish contingency governance of the awards system in the absence of the District of Columbia Awards Committee. This Act ensures continued recognition of distinguished service and contributions to the District, even in the event of committee inactivity or vacancy.

Section 1 – Definitions

- a. District Honors Act of 2024 refers to D.C. Ordinance 24-04, which codifies the municipal honors system and establishes the District of Columbia Awards Committee (DCAC) under the Office of the Mayor.
- b. DCAC means the District of Columbia Awards Committee, responsible for the creation, revocation, and design of municipal awards.
- c. Municipal Award refers to any honor codified under the District Honors Act of 2024, including but not limited to the Key to the City Award, Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Medals, and departmental commendations.

Section 2 – Nomination Authority Expansion

- a. City Council members shall be granted the authority to nominate individuals for any award codified under the District Honors Act of 2024. Nominations shall be submitted to the Office of the Mayor. This provision ensures broader civic representation in the honors process and affirms the Council's role in recognizing distinguished service.

Section 3 – Contingency Governance of Awards System

- a. In the event that the District of Columbia Awards Committee (DCAC) is not established or is inactive, the authority to establish new awards, abolish existing awards, and revoke awards shall be jointly held by the Mayor and the City Council. Such actions shall require a majority vote of the Council and the consent of the Mayor. This measure guarantees that the District's honors system remains functional and accountable, even in the absence of its designated committee.

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