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2 Chairman Kwame R. Brown

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

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7 A BILL
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12 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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17 Councilmember Mary M. Cheh introduced the following bill, which was referred to the
18 Committee on _____.

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20 To require the review and, when and where necessary, adjustment of public school boundaries
21 and public school feeder patterns every ten years; to establish a School Boundary Review
22 Commission to examine public school boundaries and feeder patterns; to define the
23 Commission's composition and responsibilities; to require public hearing and comment
24 on any proposed changes to public school boundaries and feeder patterns; to require 15-
25 month notice before any changes will take effect; to provide that students currently
26 enrolled in a public school who live outside of the school's new boundary can remain at
27 the school; to provide that siblings of students currently enrolled in a public school who
28 live outside of the school's new boundary or feeder pattern can also enroll at the school.

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30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
31 act may be cited as the "School Boundary Review Act".

32 Sec. 2. Decennial review of school boundaries.

33 The District shall review and, when and where necessary, adjust public school boundaries
34 and public school feeder patterns every ten years.

35 Sec. 3. School boundary review commission.

36 (a) On or before January 1, 2013, and every ten years thereafter, there shall be established
37 a School Boundary Review Commission.

1 (b) (1) The Mayor shall appoint no fewer than 7 persons to the Commission and shall
2 designate one of them as its Chair.

3 (2) Persons appointed to the Commission shall be well-qualified.

4 (3) The Commission shall include representatives of the following:

5 (A) Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education;

6 (B) District of Columbia Public Schools;

7 (C) Office of Planning;

8 (D) Parents of students attending District of Columbia Public Schools; and

9 (E) Community members.

10 (c) The Commission shall:

11 (1) Consider:

12 (A) Existing public school boundaries and public school feeder patterns;

13 (B) Current school capacities;

14 (C) Current school enrollments;

15 (D) Projected enrollment changes;

16 (E) Neighborhood boundaries;

17 (F) Projected neighborhood changes; and

18 (G) Any other relevant factors.

19 (2) Prepare:

20 (A) A report examining public school boundaries; and

21 (B) When and where necessary, proposed changes to public school
22 boundaries and public school feeder patterns.

23 (3) Conduct all meetings in public; and

1 (4) Solicit feedback from the public about public school boundaries and public
2 school feeder patterns.

3 Sec. 4. Report and recommended changes.

4 (a) On or before February 15, 2013, and every ten years thereafter, the Commission shall
5 publish in the D.C. Register a draft report on public school boundaries and public school feeder
6 patterns and any recommended changes.

7 (b) After issuing a draft report, the Commission shall hold at least two public hearings on
8 the draft report and any proposed changes and shall receive public comment for at least 30 days.

9 (c) On or before April 1, 2013, and every ten years thereafter, the Commission shall
10 submit a final report on public school boundaries and public school feeder patterns and any
11 proposed changes to the Mayor.

12 (d) On or before May 1, 2013, and every ten years thereafter, the Mayor shall publish
13 final changes to public school boundaries and public school feeder patterns in the D.C. Register.

14 (e) Any changes to public school boundaries and public school feeder patterns shall
15 become effective as of August 1, 2014, and every ten years thereafter.

16 (f) Notwithstanding subsections (a) through (d) of this section, the Mayor may make
17 minor adjustments to public school boundaries and feeder patterns at other times; provided, that
18 any proposed changes are published in the D.C. Register for a 30-day public comment period.

19 Sec. 5. Transition provisions.

20 (a) When public school boundaries and feeder patterns are changed:

21 (1) A student currently attending a public school who lives outside of the public
22 school's new boundary may remain until the student graduates from that public school; provided,
23 that the student's home address does not change; and

1 (2) A sibling of a student currently attending a public school who lives outside of
2 the public school’s new boundary may enroll in the public school and continue in that public
3 school until the sibling graduates from that public school; provided, that the sibling’s home
4 address does not change.

5 (b) The Mayor may make additional accommodations to minimize the effect of changing
6 public school boundaries and public school feeder patterns on families with children currently
7 attending public schools.

8 Sec. 6. Fiscal impact statement.

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

12 Sec. 7. Effective date.

13 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of a veto by
14 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review
15 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
16 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
17 Columbia Register.