

1
2
3
4 Chairman Phil Mendelson
5 at the request of the Attorney General
6

7
8 A BILL
9
10 _____
11

12
13 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
14
15 _____
16

17
18 Chairman Mendelson, at the request of the Attorney General, introduced the following bill,
19 which was referred to the Committee on _____
20

21 To amend section 16-2301(3) of the District of Columbia Official Code to modernize the
22 definition of the word “child” so that allegations of law violations by individuals under
23 18 years of age will be subject to juvenile delinquency proceedings in Family Court
24 unless a judge transfers the matter to adult court.
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
27 act may be cited as the “Redefinition of Child Amendment Act of 2021”.

28 Sec. 2. Section 16-2301(3) of Title 16 of the District of Columbia Official Code is
29 amended to read as follows:

30 “(3) The term “child” means an individual who is under 18 years of age, except
31 that the term “child” does not include an individual who is sixteen years of age or older and
32 charged with a traffic offense. For the purposes of this subchapter, the term “child” also includes
33 a person under the age of twenty-one who is charged with a delinquent act committed before the
34 respondent attained the age of eighteen.”.

35 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

1 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
2 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
3 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

4 Sec. 4. Effective date.

5 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
6 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
7 provided in section 602(c)(2) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
8 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(2)), and publication in the District of
9 Columbia Register.