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2
3 Councilmember David A. Catania

Councilmember Tommy Wells

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7 A BILL

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11 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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17 Councilmembers Tommy Wells and David Catania introduced the following bill, which was
18 referred to the committee on _____.

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20 To grant domestic partners standing as god parents and kinship caregivers in order to aid the
21 prevention of child abuse and neglect; dispense investigations when an adoption
22 petitioner is the domestic partner of the natural parent; exclude domestic partner privilege
23 from testimony concerning the welfare of or the removal of parental rights of a neglected
24 child.

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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
27 act may be cited as the "Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Amendment Act of 2007".
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30 Sec. 2. The Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977 (Law 2-22; DC Official
31 Code § 4-1301.02) is amended as follows:

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33 (1) A new paragraph § 4-1301.02 (2a) is added as follows:

34 (2a) "Domestic partnership" shall have the same meaning as provided in §
35 32-701(4).

36 (2) Paragraph § 4-1301.02 (12) is changed by adding the phrase "domestic
37 partnership," after "marriage,".

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(3) Paragraph § 4-1301.02(14)(D)(i) is changed by adding the phrase “domestic partnership,” after “marriage, ”.

Sec. 3. The Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977 (Law 2-22; DC Official Code § 4-1321.05) is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph § 4-1321.05 is changed by replacing “husband-wife” with “spouse or domestic partner”.

Sec. 4. The Stepparent Adoption Facilitation Act (Law 1-25; DC Official Code § 16-308) is amended as follows:

(1) The title of Section 16-308 is changed by adding the phrase “or domestic partner” after the word “spouse”.

(2) Paragraph (2) is changed by adding the phrase “or domestic partner” after the word “spouse”.

Sec. 5. The Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977 (Law 2-22; DC Official Code § 16-2359(e)) is amended by adding “or domestic partner” after “husband/wife”.

1 Sec. 6. The Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act of 2000 (Law 13-
2 293; DC Official Code § 16-4603.10(d)) is amended as follows:

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4 (1) adding the phrase “or domestic partners” after “spouses”;

5 (2) adding the phrase “, domestic partners” after “husband and wife”.

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7 Sec. 7. Fiscal impact statement.

8 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
9 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,
10 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-206(c)(3)).

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12 Sec. 8. Effective Date.

13 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
14 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as
15 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
16 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-206(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia
17 Register.