

Chairman Vincent C. Gray  
at the request of the Mayor

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Vincent C. Gray, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following bill,  
which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_.

To establish the District of Columbia Public Schools as a cabinet-level agency subordinate to the Mayor, to create a Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools, and to establish a District of Columbia Department of Education headed by a Deputy Mayor for Education; to amend the Charter of the District of Columbia to amend section 452 regarding the District of Columbia Public Schools Budget and repeal section 495 regarding the District of Columbia Board of Education; to transfer and assign state-level education agency functions to the State Education Office; to establish a new State Board of Education; to create an Interagency Collaboration and Services Integration Commission to address the needs of at-risk children by reducing juvenile and family violence through a comprehensive integrated service delivery system; to create an Office of Ombudsman for Public Education to serve as a communication and problem-resolution mechanism for residents regarding issues related to public education in the District; to create a Public School Facilities Management and Construction Authority to manage the District of Columbia Public Schools facilities and to implement maintenance, repair, renovation, construction, and modernization projects for school facilities; to amend the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995 to enable existing public charter schools authorized under the Public Charter Schools Act of 1996 to become charters without a petition, to establish the State Education Office as a charter authorizer by way of appeal in both the petitioning and charter revocation phases, to require performance reviews of public charter schools every three years, and to clarify that a school chartering authority may revoke a school charter for insufficient academic performance; to repeal the Public Charter Schools Act of 1996; and to make conforming amendments.

1  
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,  
3 That this act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Public Education Reform  
4 Amendment Act of 2007".

5  
6 TITLE I. ESTABLISHMENT OF MAYORAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE  
7 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

8 Sec. 101. Short title.

9 This act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Public Schools Mayoral  
10 Accountability Reform Act of 2007".

11 Sec. 102. Pursuant to section 404 (b) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,  
12 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 779; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.04 (b)), the  
13 agency now known as the District of Columbia Public Schools, and as D.C. Public  
14 Schools, is established as a separate cabinet-level agency, subordinate to the Mayor, to be  
15 known as the District of Columbia Public Schools.

16 Sec. 103. Mayor's Authority.

17 Except as specifically provided in this act, the Mayor shall have authority over all  
18 curriculum, operations, functions, budget, personnel, labor negotiations and collective  
19 bargaining agreements, facilities and other matters, including those stated in section 104  
20 of this title, affecting the District of Columbia Public Schools, but may by order delegate  
21 any or all of those functions to a designee, or to the head of the District of Columbia  
22 Public Schools, hereby known as the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public  
23 Schools ("Chancellor") as warranted for efficient and sound administration. The

1 Chancellor may subdelegate any functions delegated to him within the District of  
2 Columbia Public Schools.

3 Sec. 104. Purposes of the District of Columbia Public Schools.

4 The District of Columbia Public Schools shall have as its purposes:

5 (1) Educating all students enrolled within its schools and or learning  
6 centers consistent with District-wide standards of academic achievement established by  
7 the State Education Office;

8 (2) Operating public schools in the District of Columbia; and

9 (3) Performing the functions of a local educational agency under  
10 applicable federal laws for public elementary and secondary schools under its  
11 administrative direction and control.

12 Sec. 105. Appointment and Duties of the Chancellor of the District of Columbia  
13 Public Schools.

14 The District of Columbia Public Schools shall be administered by a full-time  
15 Chancellor appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council, pursuant  
16 to section 2(a) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-  
17 142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(a)). The Chancellor shall report to and serve at the  
18 pleasure of the Mayor, and shall be qualified by experience and training to carry out the  
19 purposes of this title. In addition to such other duties as may be lawfully imposed, the  
20 Chancellor shall:

21 (1) Serve as the chief executive officer of the District of Columbia Public  
22 Schools, organizing the agency for its efficient operation, including creating offices  
23 within the agency as necessary and exercising any other powers necessary and

1 appropriate to operate the schools and implement applicable provisions of District and  
2 federal law; and

3 (2) In accordance with the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure  
4 Act, approved October 21, 1968 (82 Stat. 1204; D.C. Official Code § 2-501 *et seq.*), and  
5 as authorized by the Mayor, issue and enforce all rules and regulations necessary and  
6 appropriate to the proper accomplishment of the duties and functions imposed by this  
7 title.

8 Sec. 106. The Mayor may, by order, delegate to the Chancellor personnel  
9 authority for all employees of the District of Columbia Public Schools with authority to  
10 hire, retain, discipline, and terminate personnel consistent with the District of Columbia  
11 Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C.  
12 Law 2-139; D.C. Official Code § 1-601.01 *et seq.*).

13 Sec. 107. The Mayor may delegate to the Chancellor procurement authority  
14 independent of the Office of Contracting and Procurement to carry out the purposes of  
15 the District of Columbia Public Schools, including contracting and contract oversight,  
16 consistent with the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act of 1985, effective  
17 February 21, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C. Official Code § 2-301.01 *et seq.*).

18 Sec. 108. Transfer of Positions, Personnel, Property, Records and Unexpended  
19 Balances.

20 (a) The provisions of subsections (b) through (f) of this section shall apply  
21 notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, except that subsections (b)  
22 through (f) shall be subject to section 304(c) and (d) of the District of Columbia Public  
23 Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007.

1 (b) All positions, personnel, property, records, and unexpended balances of  
2 appropriations, allocations, and other funds available or to be made available to the  
3 Charter-created Board of Education or D.C. Public Schools as it existed prior to the  
4 effective date of Title II of this act are hereby transferred to the Mayor for the purposes of  
5 providing educational services to residents of the District of Columbia. The primary  
6 purpose of any school property or facility shall remain to fulfill the public education  
7 functions of the District government.

8 (c) All of the functions assigned and authorities delegated to the Charter-created  
9 D.C. Board of Education or to the D.C. Public Schools as they existed prior to the  
10 enactment of Title II of the District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment  
11 Act of 2007, are hereby transferred to the Mayor.

12 (d) The Mayor is the successor to all statutory authorities, responsibilities, and  
13 functions previously performed by, or assigned to, the Charter-created D.C. Board of  
14 Education or D.C. Public Schools as they existed prior to the enactment of Title II of  
15 District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007, including those  
16 involving grants and funding programs, and federal food programs.

17 (e) The Mayor is the successor to all authority previously granted to either the  
18 Charter-created D.C. Board of Education or D.C. Public Schools as they existed prior to  
19 the enactment of Title II of District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment  
20 Act of 2007 and is authorized to act, either personally or through a representative, as a  
21 member of any committee, commission, board or other body which, as of the enactment  
22 of Title II of District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007,  
23 includes members from either the Charter-created D.C. Board of Education or D.C.

1 Public Schools as they existed prior to the enactment of Title II of District of Columbia  
2 Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007.

3 (f) The Mayor is authorized to reorganize the personnel and property transferred  
4 in this section within any organizational unit of the District of Columbia Public Schools.

5 (g) The Mayor is authorized to reorganize the personnel and property within the  
6 Office of the General Counsel of the District of Columbia Public Schools and to require  
7 that office to report to the District of Columbia Office of Attorney General.

8 Sec. 109. Section 2(a) through (f) of An Act To fix and regulate the salaries of  
9 teachers, school officers, and other employees of the board of education of the District of  
10 Columbia, approved June 20, 1906 (34 Stat. 317; D.C. Official Code § 38-101 *et seq.*) is  
11 repealed.

12 Sec. 110. Establishment of a District of Columbia Department of Education.

13 (a) There is established, under the Office of the Mayor, a District of Columbia  
14 Department of Education (“Department of Education”).

15 (b) The Department of Education shall:

16 (1) Have oversight of the State Education Office;

17 (2) Have oversight of the District of Columbia Public Education Facilities  
18 Management and Construction Authority;

19 (3) Be responsible for the supervision of the Office of the Ombudsman  
20 for Public Education;

21 (4) Be responsible for the planning, coordination, and supervision of all  
22 public education and education-related activities of the District Government, including

1 development and support of programs to improve the delivery of educational services and  
2 opportunities, from the pre-kindergarten to post-graduate level;

3 (5) Promote, coordinate, and oversee collaborative efforts among District  
4 Government agencies to support education and child development as it relates to  
5 education, including coordinating the integration of programs and resources;

6 (6) Have oversight of the development of a comprehensive, District-wide  
7 data system that integrates and tracks data across education, justice, and human service  
8 agencies in order to assess the needs of and inform the comprehensive service delivery to  
9 children in the District of Columbia; and

10 (7) Coordinate programs, policies, and objectives of the Mayor with the  
11 University of the District of Columbia and the Board of Trustees of the University of the  
12 District of Columbia.

13 (c) The Department of Education shall be headed by the Deputy Mayor for  
14 Education, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

15 (d) Special Education. Within 60 days of enactment of this title, the Department  
16 of Education shall report to the Mayor and the Council on the status of:

17 (1) The Special Education Task Force, and the development of the  
18 Special Education Reform Plan, established pursuant to section 372 of the Fiscal Year  
19 2004 Budget Support Act of 2003, effective November 13, 2003 (D.C. Law 15-39, D.C.  
20 Official Code § 38-2551); and

21 (2) The implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Board of  
22 Education pursuant to the resolution Adopting the Recommendations of the Ad Hoc  
23 Committee on Special Education White Paper and Other Recommendations to Improve

1 the Delivery of Special Education Services within the District of Columbia Public  
2 Schools, effective March 13, 2006 (Board of Education resolution SR06-22).

3

4 TITLE II. BOARD OF EDUCATION CHARTER AMENDMENT.

5 Sec. 201. Short title.

6 This act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Board of Education Charter  
7 Amendment Act of 2007".

8 Sec. 202. Amendment of Authority for the Budget of the District of Columbia  
9 Public Schools.

10 Section 452 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24,  
11 1973 (87 Stat. 803; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.52), is amended to read as follows:

12 “Sec. 452. Annual Budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools.

13 “Role of Mayor and Council. The District of Columbia Public Schools shall  
14 develop an annual budget for the operation of the public schools for submission to the  
15 Mayor. The Mayor shall submit the budget to the Council for approval, pursuant to  
16 section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973  
17 (87 Stat. 803; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.42).”.

18 Sec. 203. Repeal of D.C. Board of Education Governance Authority.

19 Section 495 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24,  
20 1973 (87 Stat. 820; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.95), is repealed.

21 Sec. 204. Applicability.

1           The "District of Columbia Board of Education Charter Amendment Act of 2007"  
2 shall be applicable upon the enactment of sections 202 and 203 of this title into law by  
3 the United States Congress.

4

5           TITLE III. STATE EDUCATION AGENCY FUNCTIONS AND  
6 RESPONSIBILITIES.

7           Sec. 301. Short title.

8           This act may be cited as the "Public Education State-Level Functions and State  
9 Education Agency Functions and Responsibilities Designation Amendment Act of 2007".

10          Sec. 302. Section 2 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000,  
11 effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2601), is  
12 amended by adding a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

13           “(c) The Officer shall serve as the Chief State School Officer for the District of  
14 Columbia.”

15          Sec. 303. Section 3(b) of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000,  
16 effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2602), is  
17 amended as follows:

18           (a) By adding a new paragraph (1) to read as follows:

19           “(1) Serve as the state education agency, and perform the functions of a  
20 state education agency, for the District of Columbia under applicable federal law,  
21 including but not limited to grant-making, oversight, and State educational agency  
22 functions for standards, assessments, and federal accountability requirements for  
23 elementary and secondary education.”;

1 (b) By redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3),  
2 (4), (5), and (6), respectively; and

3 (c) By adding new paragraphs (7), (8), (9), (10), (11) and (12) to read as follows:

4 “(7) Issue rules to establish requirements to govern acceptable credit to be  
5 granted for studies completed at independent, private, public, and public charter schools  
6 and private instruction;

7 “(8) Prescribe minimum amounts of instructional time for all schools in the  
8 District, including public, public charter, and private schools;

9 “(9) Oversee the state-level functions and activities related to early childhood  
10 education programs, including the public education of the District of Columbia Early  
11 Intervention Services Program, established by section 502 of the Child and Youth Safety  
12 and Health Omnibus Amendment Act of 2004, effective April 13, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-  
13 353; D.C. Official Code § 7-863.03), as defined in accordance with section 502 of that  
14 act;

15 “(10) Provide for the education of children in the custody of the District of  
16 Columbia Department of Youth Rehabilitative Services;

17 “(11) Formulate and promulgate rules as necessary to carry out its functions,  
18 pursuant to the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act, approved October 21,  
19 1968, (82 Stat. 1204; D.C. Official Code § 2-501 *et seq.*); and

20 “(12) Any other responsibilities not inconsistent with the performance of the  
21 state-level education functions of the District of Columbia.”.

1           Sec. 304. Section 3 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000,  
2 effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2602), is  
3 amended by adding new subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

4           “(c) All positions, personnel, property, records, and unexpended balances of  
5 appropriations, allocations, and other funds available or to be made available to the  
6 District of Columbia Board of Education that support state-level functions related to state  
7 education agency responsibilities identified in subsection (b) of this section are hereby  
8 transferred to the State Education Office, established by section 2 of the State Education  
9 Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C.  
10 Official Code § 38-2601).

11           “(d) All of the powers, duties, and functions delegated to the District of Columbia  
12 Board of Education concerning the establishment, development, and institution of state-  
13 level functions related to state education agency responsibilities identified in subsection  
14 (b) of this section are hereby transferred to the State Education Office, established by  
15 Section 2 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21,  
16 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2601). The transfer of these functions  
17 shall be made pursuant to an approved transition plan, developed within 90 days, in  
18 accordance with section 7 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000,  
19 effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2606).”.

20           Sec. 305. Supervision of Adult Education Program.

21           (a) Section 2(b) of the Adult Education Designation Amendment Act of 1998,  
22 effective April 20, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-231; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.12), is  
23 repealed.

1 (b) The State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21,  
2 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2601 et. seq.), is amended by adding a  
3 new section 8 to read as follows:

4 “Sec. 8. Supervision of Adult Education Program.

5 “(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of District law, the State Education  
6 Office shall be the state agency responsible for supervision of adult education and adult  
7 literacy in the District of Columbia.

8 “(b) All positions, personnel, property, records, and unexpended balances of  
9 appropriations, allocations, and other funds available or to be made available to the  
10 University of the District of Columbia that support state-level functions related to adult  
11 education or adult literacy, are hereby transferred to the State Education Office,  
12 established by section 2 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000,  
13 effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2601).

14 “(c) All of the powers, duties, and functions delegated to the University of the  
15 District of Columbia concerning the establishment, development, and institution of state-  
16 level functions related to adult education or adult literacy, including those delegated  
17 pursuant to this chapter, are hereby transferred to the State Education Office, established  
18 by Section 2 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October  
19 21, 2000, as amended (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2601). The transfer of  
20 these functions shall be made pursuant to an approved transition plan, developed within  
21 90 days, in accordance with section 7 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of  
22 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2606).

1           “(d) The State Education Office shall apply for federal funds as provided in the  
2 Adult Education Act, approved April 28, 1988 (102 Stat. 302; 20 U.S.C. § 1201).

3           “(e)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Education Office is  
4 authorized to establish fee rates for all adult education courses. The amount to be  
5 charged to each adult shall be fixed annually by the State Education Office as the amount  
6 necessary to cover the expense of instruction, cost of textbooks and school supplies, and  
7 other operating costs associated with each course offered, provided that the amount and  
8 changes in the amount fixed by this subsection are set by the State Education Office in  
9 accordance with section 6 of the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act,  
10 approved October 21, 1968 (82 Stat. 1204; D.C. Official Code § 2-505). Following the  
11 final adoption of such amount, the State Education Office shall transmit a copy of the fee  
12 schedule to the Mayor and the Council.

13           “(2) All amounts received by the State Education Office pursuant to this  
14 section shall be paid to the D.C. Treasurer and accounted for in the General Fund as a  
15 separate revenue source allocable to provide authority for the offering of select adult  
16 education courses for which fees will be charged.

17           “(3) Waivers, in whole or in part, of fees for select adult education courses  
18 may be granted by the Education Office.”.

19           Sec. 306. Section 503 of the Child and Youth Safety and Health Omnibus  
20 Amendment Act of 2004, effective April 13, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-353; D.C. Official Code  
21 § 7-863.03), is amended as follows:

22           (a) subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

1           “(a) There is established in the State Education Office an Early Intervention  
2 Program (“Program”) to provide early intervention services to infants and toddlers, from  
3 birth through 2 years of age, and their families. The services shall be provided in  
4 accordance with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as  
5 approved June 4, 1997 (111 Stat. 37; 20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.*)”.

6           (b) New subsections (d) and (e) are added to read as follows:

7           “(d) All positions, personnel, property, records, and unexpended balances of  
8 appropriations, allocations, and other funds available or to be made available to the  
9 District of Columbia Department of Human Services that support functions related to the  
10 responsibilities of the District of Columbia Early Care and Education Administration and  
11 the District of Columbia Early Intervention Program as defined in accordance with  
12 section 502 of the Child and Youth Safety and Health Omnibus Amendment Act of 2004,  
13 effective April 13, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-353; D.C. Official Code § 7-863.02), are hereby  
14 transferred to the State Education Office, established by section 2 of the State Education  
15 Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000, (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C.  
16 Official Code § 38-2601).

17           “(e) All of the powers, duties, and functions delegated to the District of Columbia  
18 Department of Human Services concerning the establishment, development, and  
19 institution of functions related to the District of Columbia Early Intervention Program as  
20 defined in accordance with section 502 of the Child and Youth Safety and Health  
21 Omnibus Amendment Act of 2004, effective April 13, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-353; D.C.  
22 Official Code § 7-863.02), including those delegated pursuant to this chapter, and all  
23 functions and responsibilities related to the District of Columbia Early Care and

1 Education Administration, are hereby transferred to the State Education Office,  
2 established by section 2 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000,  
3 effective October 21, 2000, (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2601).”.

4       Sec. 307. All rules, orders, obligations, determinations, grants, contracts,  
5 licenses, and agreements of the Board of Education, the District of Columbia Public  
6 Schools, the District of Columbia Department of Human Services, or the University of  
7 the District of Columbia relating to functions transferred to the State Education Office  
8 under this act that are in effect at the time this act takes effect shall remain in effect  
9 according to their terms until lawfully amended, repealed, or modified by the State  
10 Education Office.

11       Sec. 308. Transition Plan.

12       (a) The State Education Officer shall, within 90 days of enactment of this title,  
13 submit to the Mayor for approval a detailed transition plan for the transfer to take place  
14 not later than October 1, 2007, of all of the functions and responsibilities designated for  
15 transfer by the Public Education State-Level Functions and State Education Agency  
16 Functions and Responsibilities Designation Amendment Act of 2007. The transition plan  
17 shall:

18               (1) Be formulated in consultation with the Board of Education, the  
19 District of Columbia Public Schools, the Public Charter School Board, District agencies  
20 with responsibilities for functions specified in sections 303-306, and any relevant federal  
21 agencies;

22               (2) Identify the authority and responsibility of each party at each stage in  
23 the transition process;

1 (3) Specify timelines, dates and benchmarks for transfer of authority,  
2 responsibility, budget, and employees;

3 (4) Specify the estimated cost to the SEO of carrying out each function  
4 specified in sections 303-306;

5 (5) Identify any factors with potential for disrupting services to students  
6 and recommend steps to prevent any possible disruption.

7 (b) The Mayor shall forward the approved transition plan to the Council and the  
8 State Board of Education.

9 (c) The transfer of all functions designated by the Public Education State-Level  
10 Functions and State Education Agency Functions and Responsibilities Designation  
11 Amendment Act of 2007 shall be made pursuant to the transition plan detailed in  
12 subsection (a) in accordance with section 7 of the State Education Office Establishment  
13 Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-  
14 2606).

15

#### 16 TITLE IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

17 Sec. 401. Short title.

18 This act may be cited as the "District of Columbia State Board of Education  
19 Establishment Act of 2007".

20 Sec. 402. Transition From Charter Created Board to State Board.

21 The existing Board of Education created by section 495 of the District of  
22 Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official  
23 Code § 1-204.95) (hereinafter in this act referred to as the "Charter-created Board of

1 Education") shall continue in effect only until such time as Title II of the District of  
2 Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007 becomes effective and all  
3 terms of office of the Charter-created Board members shall continue until a successor  
4 member is either appointed by the Mayor or elected pursuant to section 403 of this act or  
5 the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699;  
6 D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.01 *et seq.*) depending upon whether the member being  
7 replaced was appointed or elected.

8           Sec. 403. Board membership; election; term of office; vacancies.

9           (a)(1) There is established a State Board of Education ("Board") consisting of 9  
10 members. Four members shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council.  
11 Five members shall be elected. Four of the 5 elected members shall be elected from the 4  
12 school districts created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. One member shall be  
13 elected at-large as the President of the Board.

14           (2) Members of the Charter-created Board of Education, as of the effective  
15 date of this act, shall serve as the initial State Board of Education through January 2,  
16 2009. The terms of these members shall expire at noon, January 2, 2009.

17           (b) The 4 school districts for the election of Board members pursuant to  
18 subsection (a) of this section shall be comprised of the 8 election wards created pursuant  
19 to section 2 of the Boundaries Act of 1975, effective December 16, 1975 (D.C. Law 1-38;  
20 D.C. Official Code § 1-1011.01), as follows:

21           (1) Wards 1 and 2 shall comprise School District I;

22           (2) Wards 3 and 4 shall comprise School District II;

23           (3) Wards 5 and 6 shall comprise School District III; and

1 (4) Wards 7 and 8 shall comprise School District IV.

2 (c) Beginning January 2, 2009, the Board shall consist of 9 elected members.

3 One member shall be elected from each of the 8 school election wards established  
4 pursuant to section 2 of the Boundaries Act of 1975, effective December 16, 1975 (D.C.

5 Law 1-38; D.C. Official Code ' 1-1011.01), and one member shall be elected at-large.

6 The State Board of Education shall select its President from among the 9 members of the  
7 Board.

8 (d)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3)(B) of this subsection, the term of office  
9 of a member of the Board, including the at-large member, shall be 4 years.

10 (2) Members may receive compensation at a rate fixed by the Council of  
11 the District of Columbia, which shall not exceed the sum provided by section 1110 of the  
12 District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, approved March 3,  
13 1979 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Official Code § 1-611.10).

14 (3)(A) The term of office of a member of the Board elected in a general  
15 election shall commence on January 2 of the year following the election. The term of  
16 office of an incumbent member of the Board shall expire at noon January 2 of the year  
17 following the general election.

18 (B) The initial terms of the members of the State Board of  
19 Education elected in the general election in November 2008 shall be as follows:

20 (i) The 4 members elected from wards 1, 3, 5, and 6 shall  
21 serve 2 year terms, ending at noon January 2, 2011.

22 (ii) The 4 members elected from wards 2, 4, 7, and 8 and  
23 the member elected at-large shall serve 4 year terms, ending at noon January 2, 2013.

1           (e)(1) Each member of the Board elected from a ward shall at the time of his or  
2 her nomination: (A) be a qualified elector (as that term is defined in § 1-1001.02) in the  
3 school election ward from which he seeks election; (B) have, for one year immediately  
4 preceding the election, resided in the ward from which he or she is nominated; and (C)  
5 have, during the 90-day period next preceding his or her nomination, been an actual  
6 resident of the District of Columbia and have during such period claimed residence  
7 nowhere else. A member shall forfeit his or her office upon failure to maintain the  
8 qualifications required by this paragraph.

9           (2) Each member of the Board elected at large shall at the time of his or  
10 her nomination: (A) be a qualified elector (as that term is defined in section 2 of the  
11 District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699;  
12 D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.01 *et seq.*)) in the District of Columbia; and (B) have, during  
13 the one year period immediately preceding the election, been an actual resident of the  
14 District of Columbia and have during such period claimed residence nowhere else. A  
15 member shall forfeit his or her office upon failure to maintain the qualifications required  
16 by this paragraph.

17           (3) No individual may hold the office of member of the State Board of  
18 Education and: (A) hold another elective office other than delegate or alternate delegate  
19 to a convention of a political party nominating candidates for President and Vice-  
20 President of the United States; or (B) also be an officer or employee of the District of  
21 Columbia government or of the Board. A member shall forfeit his or her office upon  
22 failure to maintain the qualifications required by this paragraph.

1 (f) Whenever, before the end of his or her term, a member of the Board dies,  
2 resigns, or becomes unable to serve or a member-elect of the Board fails to take office,  
3 such vacancy shall be filled as provided in section 10(e) and (g) of the District of  
4 Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official  
5 Code § 1-1001.01 *et seq.*).

6 (g) The election of the members of the State Board of Education shall be  
7 conducted on a nonpartisan basis and in accordance with the District of Columbia  
8 Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-  
9 1001.01 *et seq.*).

10 Sec. 404. Functions of the State Board of Education.

11 (a) The State Board of Education shall advise the Chief State School Officer on  
12 various subject matters including, but not limited to, state standards, state policies, state  
13 objectives and state regulations proposed by the Mayor or the Chief State School Officer  
14 and state policies governing the special, academic, vocational, charter and other schools  
15 established within the District of Columbia.

16 (b) The State Board of Education shall have no policy making authority, except  
17 for the following:

18 (1) Approval of state standards upon recommendation by the Chief State  
19 School Officer; and

20 (2) Approval of the state accountability plan for the District of Columbia  
21 developed by the Chief State School Officer pursuant to section 1111(c)(2) of the No  
22 Child Left Behind Act of 2001, enacted January 8, 2002 (Pub. L. 107-110, 20 USC  
23 6311).

1 (c) The State Board of Education may conduct a monthly meeting to receive  
2 citizen input with respect to issues properly before it.

3 (d) The Mayor shall, by order, specify the Board's organizational structure, staff,  
4 budget, operations, reimbursement of expenses, and other matters affecting the Board's  
5 functions.

6

7 TITLE V. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION AND SERVICES  
8 INTEGRATION COMMISSION.

9 Sec. 501. Short title.

10 This act may be cited as the "Interagency Collaboration and Services Integration  
11 Commission Establishment Act of 2007".

12 Sec. 502. Purpose

13 The purpose of the Interagency Collaboration and Services Integration  
14 Commission is to address the needs of at-risk children by reducing juvenile and family  
15 violence and promoting social and emotional skills among children and youth through a  
16 comprehensive integrated service delivery system that includes the following:

17 (1) Comprehensive, multi-disciplinary assessments of children by school-  
18 based clinicians;

19 (2) Implementation of a management information system that enables the  
20 inter-agency exchange of information and protects families' privacy rights;

21 (3) Facilitation of resource sharing and inter-agency collaboration on  
22 multi-disciplinary projects;

1 (4) Development and implementation of proven, evidence-based  
2 preventive and interventive programs for children and families by educational, law  
3 enforcement, mental health and social services agencies;

4 (5) Development of integrated service plans for individual children and  
5 families that promote the delivery of services that are comprehensive, implemented  
6 without interruption and free from duplication or redundancy; and

7 (6) Independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the Commission's  
8 programs including the impact on academic performance, levels of violence by and  
9 against children, truancy and delinquency; the cost effectiveness of the Commission's  
10 programs, taking into account such factors as reductions, or potential reductions, in out of  
11 home placements and law enforcement expenditures; and the extent to which the  
12 Commission has developed the capacity to sustain its programs and activities.

13 Sec. 503. Definitions

14 For the purposes of this act, the term:

15 (1) "Comprehensive, multi-disciplinary assessments" means assessments  
16 of children to determine the extent to which they are affected by risk and protective  
17 factors as individuals and in families, communities and schools, and the extent to which  
18 they have service needs resulting from emotional disturbance, substance abuse, exposure  
19 to violence and learning disabilities.

20 (2) "Evidence-based", with reference to a preventive or interventive  
21 program means a program: (A) whose evaluation, which has been completed by an  
22 independent agency with demonstrated expertise in evaluation; (B) that yields statistically  
23 significant data demonstrating the program's effectiveness in accomplishing its intended

1 purposes; and (C) that has been replicated in another community with a level of  
2 effectiveness comparable to that indicated in the evaluation.

3 (3) “Integrated service plans” means service plans that promote delivery  
4 of services that are, to the fullest extent possible, comprehensive, implemented without  
5 interruption, and free from duplication or redundancy.

6 (4) “School-based clinicians” means certified social workers, credentialed  
7 alcoholism and substance abuse counselors or other mental health, alcoholism, substance  
8 abuse or chemical dependence counselors deemed qualified by the Director of the  
9 Department of Health or other nationally recognized certification organizations to  
10 conduct comprehensive, multi-disciplinary assessments.

11 Sec. 504. Establishment of the Interagency Collaboration and Services  
12 Integration Commission.

13 (a) There is established an Interagency Collaboration and Services Integration  
14 Commission (“Commission”). The Commission shall:

15 (1) Develop an information-sharing agreement, within 90 days of  
16 enactment of this title, with education, law enforcement, and human service agencies,  
17 which shall permit Commission personnel to collect information from agencies  
18 participating in the agreement in order to conduct comprehensive multi-disciplinary  
19 assessments and to develop and implement integrated service plans. The information-  
20 sharing agreement shall adhere to all applicable provisions of federal and District law and  
21 professional standards regarding confidentiality, and shall include:

22 (A) The Commission’s procedures and protocols for safeguarding  
23 confidential and other client-related information; and

1 (B) The Commission’s form for obtaining consent to assessment  
2 and disclosure of confidential information from a participant or the parent or legal  
3 guardian of a participant;

4 (2) Develop, within 90 days of enactment of this title, procedures and  
5 protocols for safeguarding confidential and other client-related information, including  
6 documents, files, electronic communications and computer data. The procedures and  
7 protocols shall include procedures for determining when a fully informed and written  
8 consent to assessment and disclosure of confidential information is provided by a  
9 participant or the parent or legal guardian of a participant. The procedures shall further  
10 specify the circumstances and manner in which confidential information collected and  
11 maintained by designated personnel of the Commission may be disclosed, as permitted  
12 by applicable provisions of local and federal law, to:

13 (A) Other personnel of the Commission for the sole and exclusive  
14 purposes of

15 (i) Conducting comprehensive, multi-disciplinary  
16 assessments of children; and

17 (ii) Creating and implementing integrated service plans for  
18 children; and

19 (B) Education, law enforcement and human service agencies and  
20 other service providers identified in the consent to assessment and disclosure of  
21 confidential information for the sole and exclusive purpose of creating and implementing  
22 such integrated service plans;

1                   (3) Identify a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary assessment instrument  
2 which shall be used by school-based clinicians to determine the extent to which children  
3 are affected by risk and protective factors as individuals and in families, communities,  
4 and schools, and the extent to which children have service needs resulting from emotional  
5 disturbance, substance abuse, exposure to violence, and learning disabilities. The school-  
6 based clinicians shall also provide therapeutic interventions and assist in the development  
7 of integrated service plans;

8                   (4) Through financial, administrative and other supports, assist education,  
9 law enforcement and human service agencies in the implementation of preventive and  
10 early interventive programs for children and their families. Such programs shall be  
11 implemented to serve children in pre-school, primary school, and secondary school age  
12 groups and their families. All preventive and interventive programs implemented with  
13 the assistance and support of the Commission shall be evidence-based programs and shall  
14 include, but not be limited to, the following:

15                               (A) Early childhood psychosocial and emotional development  
16 programs;

17                               (B) School-based violence and substance abuse prevention and  
18 social and emotional learning programs;

19                               (C) Family resiliency and strengthening programs; and

20                               (D) Programs that are designed to reduce local reliance on out-of-  
21 home placements of children under the age of 18;

1                   (5) Determine the extent to which the District has preventive and early  
2     interventive evidence-based programs that already meet some or all of the requirements  
3     of paragraph (4) of this section;

4                   (6) Maintain an interagency database housed in a secure location which  
5     stores assessment information, data gathered pursuant to the information-sharing  
6     agreement and other data relevant for the purposes of service integration, the monitoring  
7     and evaluation or treatment plans, and the ongoing assessment of programs implemented  
8     or supported by the Commission;

9                   (7) Conduct an annual independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the  
10    Commission's programs, including the impact on academic performance, levels of  
11    violence by and against children, truancy and delinquency; the cost effectiveness of the  
12    Commission's programs, taking into account such factors as reductions, or potential  
13    reductions, in out of home placements and law enforcement expenditures; and the extent  
14    to which the Commission has developed the capacity to sustain its programs and  
15    activities; and

16                  (8) Report, on an annual basis, on the status and progress of the objectives  
17    of the Commission, including the results of the evaluation referenced in paragraph (7) of  
18    this subsection and any recommendations made by the Commission, to the public, the  
19    Mayor, and the Council. The report shall be submitted to the Mayor and the Council  
20    within 90 days after the end of each fiscal year.

21                  (b) The Commission shall have the authority, unless expressly prohibited in  
22    statute or regulation, to combine local, federal and other resources available to the  
23    participating education, law enforcement, and human services agencies for the purposes

1 of providing comprehensive multi-disciplinary assessments, integrated services, and  
2 evidence-based programs as described herein.

3 (c) The Commission is authorized to apply for, receive, and disburse federal,  
4 state, and local funds for which the District of Columbia is eligible and which are  
5 relevant to the duties and responsibilities of the Commission. The Commission is also  
6 authorized to utilize the funding provided pursuant to the Integrated Funding and  
7 Services for At-Risk Children, Youth, and Families Act of 2006, signed by the Mayor on  
8 August 8, 2006 (D.C. Act 16-476; 53 DCR 34) to carry out its responsibilities.

9 Sec. 505. Membership

10 The Commission shall include the following members:

- 11 (1) The Mayor, who shall serve as the Chair;
- 12 (2) Deputy Mayor for Education;
- 13 (3) Chairman of Council of the District of Columbia;
- 14 (4) Chief Judge, Family Court of the District of Columbia;
- 15 (5) City Administrator;
- 16 (6) State Education Officer;
- 17 (7) Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools;
- 18 (8) Chair of the Public Charter School Board;
- 19 (9) Director of the Department of Child and Family Services;
- 20 (10) Director of the Department of Youth Rehabilitative Services;
- 21 (11) Director of the Department of Health;
- 22 (12) Director of the Department of Mental Health;
- 23 (13) Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department;
- 24 (14) Director of the Court Social Services Agency;

- 1 (15) District of Columbia Attorney General;
- 2 (16) Director of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council;
- 3 (17) Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation; and
- 4 (18) Director of the District of Columbia Public Library.

5 Sec. 506. Administrative support.

6 (a) The Commission is authorized to hire staff and to obtain equipment, supplies,  
7 materials and services as necessary to carry out the functions of the Commission.

8 (b) The Commission shall serve as the personnel authority for all employees of  
9 the Commission and shall exercise such authority consistent with the District of  
10 Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective March 3,  
11 1978 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Official Code § 1-601.01 *et seq.*).

12 (c) The Commission may exercise procurement authority to carry out the  
13 responsibilities of the Commission, including contracting and contract oversight. The  
14 Commission shall exercise this authority consistent with the District of Columbia  
15 Procurement Practices Act of 1985, effective February 21, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C.  
16 Official Code § 2-301.01 *et seq.*), except that the provisions of section 105(a), (b), (c),  
17 and (e) of that act (D.C. Official Code § 2-301.05(a), (b), (c), and (e)) shall not apply to  
18 the Commission.

19

20 TITLE VI. CREATION OF OFFICE OF OMBUDSMAN FOR PUBLIC  
21 EDUCATION.

22 Sec. 601. This act may be cited as the “Ombudsman for Public Education  
23 Establishment Act of 2007”.

1           Sec. 602. The Mayor shall establish an Office of Ombudsman for Public  
2 Education in the District of Columbia within the District of Columbia Department of  
3 Education for the following purposes:

4           (a) To encourage communication between citizens and the Mayor regarding pre-  
5 kindergarten through postsecondary, graduate public education issues in the District of  
6 Columbia;

7           (b) To serve as a mechanism by which citizens can communicate their questions  
8 and concerns regarding public education in the District of Columbia through a single,  
9 central source within the District government; and

10          (c) To respond to questions and issues raised by members of the public regarding  
11 public education in the District of Columbia in a timely fashion with accurate and helpful  
12 information.

13          Sec. 603. Duties of the Office of Ombudsman for Public Education.

14          (a) The Office of the Ombudsman for Public Education shall report to the Deputy  
15 Mayor for Public Education.

16          (b) The primary duties of the Office of Ombudsman for Public Education are  
17 investigation and resolution of problems raised by citizens, outreach to the public, and  
18 identification of systemic concerns raised by citizens or related to public education in the  
19 District of Columbia. The Office of Ombudsman for Public Education shall perform the  
20 following core functions to accomplish these duties:

21                 (1) Receive complaints from parents and District residents concerning  
22 public education in the District of Columbia;

23                 (2) Determine the validity of any complaint quickly and professionally;

- 1 (3) Generate options for a response;
- 2 (4) Make a recommendation among the options; and
- 3 (5) Make a referral to the appropriate school official, when appropriate.

4 (c) The Office of Ombudsman for Public Education shall maintain a database that  
5 tracks complaints received according to various categories, including but not limited to  
6 type, school level, and location. The Office of Ombudsman for Public Education shall  
7 report monthly to the Mayor and the State Board of Education an analysis of the  
8 complaint and resolution data, and shall recommend, based on public complaints, policy  
9 changes, staff training, or implementation strategies necessary to improve the delivery of  
10 public education services in the District of Columbia.

11 (d) The Office of Ombudsman for Public Education shall strive at all times to  
12 perform its functions with neutrality and independence toward the issue being addressed.

13

14 TITLE VII. CREATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION FACILITIES  
15 MANAGEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY.

16 Sec. 701. Short title.

17 This act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Public Education Facilities  
18 Management and Construction Authority Establishment Act of 2007".

19 Sec. 702. Establishment of the District of Columbia Public Education Facilities  
20 Management and Construction Authority.

21 There is established as a corporate body and independent instrumentality of the  
22 District, with a legal existence separate from that of the District government, the District  
23 of Columbia Public Education Facilities Management and Construction Authority

1 (“Facilities Management and Construction Authority”). The Facilities Management and  
2 Construction Authority is created to effectuate the following public purposes:

3 (1) Ensuring that the children of the District of Columbia have safe,  
4 modern, secure educational environments in which to learn;

5 (2) Implementing the District of Columbia Public Schools Master  
6 Facilities Plan, and to, in consultation with DCPS, seek any appropriate amendments to  
7 the Master Facilities Plan;

8 (3) Directing the functions of maintenance, inspection, construction,  
9 renovation, repair, and modernization of District of Columbia Public Schools facilities;  
10 and

11 (4) Expediting school modernization through the efficient expenditure of  
12 District of Columbia Public Schools capital funds and the identification of and  
13 development of alternative financing mechanisms for school modernization, including  
14 public private partnerships, co-location, and other leveraged uses of facilities space and  
15 assets.

16 Sec. 703. Powers.

17 (a) The Facilities Management and Construction Authority shall have the power  
18 to:

19 (1) Sue and be sued.

20 (2) Receive, establish, and manage funds, including:

21 (A) Solicit and develop public private development partnerships,  
22 consistent with law, and other means of alternative financing to support the District of  
23 Columbia Public Schools capital improvement plan;

1 (B) Direct the expenditure of District capital and operating funds  
2 allocated by the Council for the operation, maintenance, repair, design, construction,  
3 renovation, and modernization of District of Columbia Public Schools facilities,  
4 including all funds made available through the Public School Capital Improvement Fund  
5 established by section 101 of the School Modernization Financing Act of 2006, effective  
6 June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-123, D.C. Official Code § 38-2971.01); and

7 (C) Establish one or more revolving funds for the exclusive benefit  
8 of the Authority to finance the activities of the Authority, including the administration of  
9 the District of Columbia Public Schools capital improvement program, which funds shall  
10 not be a part of the General Fund of the District and shall be non-lapsing. Unexpended  
11 amounts therein shall not revert to the General Fund at the end of the fiscal year but shall  
12 remain in the Authority fund. The Authority may pledge and secure all or a portion of  
13 these funds to carry out the Authority's purposes.

14 (3) Manage and execute all lease agreements, notwithstanding section  
15 451(b) and (c) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973  
16 (87 Stat. 803; D.C. Official Code 1-204.51(b) and (c)), for the use of District of Columbia  
17 Public Schools facilities, the revenues from which shall be deposited in a revolving fund  
18 established by the Facilities Management and Construction Authority and separate from  
19 the General Fund of the District of Columbia;

20 (4) Enter into long-term land and facility lease agreements for District of  
21 Columbia Public Schools facilities, notwithstanding section 451(b) and (c) of the District  
22 of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 803; D.C. Official  
23 Code 1-204.51(b) and (c)), that are determined to be excess by the Mayor, upon

1 recommendation by the Chancellor, and are not needed for educational purposes in the  
2 short-term. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to grant authority to the Facilities  
3 Management and Construction Authority to sell District government property or facilities  
4 without following existing law governing the disposition of property;

5 (5) Enter into contracts and execute any instrument necessary or  
6 convenient to accomplish the purposes of the District of Columbia Public Education  
7 Facilities Management and Construction Authority and this title;

8 (6) Enter into agreements and joint venture arrangements, consistent with  
9 law, with any local, state, regional, or federal government agency, community-based  
10 organization, or private entity to further the purposes of this title, provided that the  
11 primary purpose of such an agreement and the primary use of any school facility shall be  
12 for public education;

13 (7) Approve and authorize decisions at every stage of school facility  
14 maintenance, repair, renovation, construction or modernization, including planning,  
15 design, procurement, and construction; and

16 (8) Adopt policies, rules, and procedures governing its procurement of  
17 goods and services, notwithstanding the requirements of the District of Columbia  
18 Procurement Practices Act of 1985, effective February 21, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C.  
19 Official Code § 2-301.01 *et seq.*).

20 Sec. 704. Chief Executive Officer.

21 (a) The Mayor shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of the Facilities  
22 Management and Construction Authority, with the advice and consent of the Council,  
23 pursuant to section 2(a) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C.

1 Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(a)). The CEO shall serve at the pleasure of  
2 the Mayor and shall receive such compensation as determined by the Mayor.

3 (b) In addition to any other duties set forth in this act, the CEO shall:

4 (1) Direct and supervise the administration and management of the  
5 Facilities Management and Construction Authority;

6 (2) Consult with the Chancellor and the State Education Officer in  
7 carrying out his functions under this act;

8 (3) Hire such personnel as the CEO deems necessary to carry out the  
9 functions of the Facilities Management and Construction Authority, consistent with the  
10 District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective  
11 March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Official Code § 1-601.01 *et seq.*);

12 (4) Authorize contracts, memoranda, and other binding agreements  
13 necessary to carry out the functions of the Facilities Management and Construction  
14 Authority; and

15 (5) Report and make recommendations to the Mayor on the status of  
16 school facilities projects, the need for policies, rules, and regulations, and the financial  
17 status of the District of Columbia Public Schools capital improvement program.

18 Sec. 705. Public-Private Development Partnerships.

19 (a) For the purposes of identifying and creating public-private development  
20 partnership opportunities, consistent with law, the CEO may select one or more firms to  
21 act as consultants to review the District's public school facility real estate portfolio and  
22 prepare detailed business studies for potential public-public and public-private

1 development partnerships that would expedite projects already approved as part of the  
2 implementation of the Facilities Master Plan.

3 (b) With the approval of the Mayor, the CEO may, consistent with law, establish  
4 development partnerships in which property or land owned by the District government  
5 may be sold or leased for development to generate revenue for the District of Columbia  
6 Public Schools capital improvement plan.

7 (c) The CEO may, consistent with law, solicit proposals for and award financing  
8 to public-public and public-private partnerships to speed school construction projects.

9 The proposals solicited may include:

- 10 (1) The purchase of a school site and improvements to that site;
- 11 (2) The construction or purchase of a building to be used as a school;
- 12 (3) Complete or partial furnishing and equipping of a school building;
- 13 (4) Repair of a school building;
- 14 (5) The making of improvements to a school site; and
- 15 (6) The costs or expenses associated with any of the projects described in  
16 paragraphs (1) through (5) of this subsection, including architectural costs, engineering  
17 costs, consulting costs, demolition costs, and legal costs.

18 (d)(1) The CEO shall evaluate proposals solicited under subsection (c) of this  
19 section based on consistency with the Master Education Plan and Master Facilities Plan,  
20 and whether the proposals:

- 21 (A) Provide space and are appropriately designed for school-based  
22 programs, support services, and extracurricular activities;

1 (B) Include well-designed physical systems and components that  
2 promote learning, safety, and energy efficiency;

3 (C) Create connections to the surrounding community and support  
4 for community activities; and

5 (D) Are cost-effective to build, operate, and maintain.

6 (2) The CEO may also consider other factors that it deems important.

7 (e) The CEO shall give priority in funding to projects that:

8 (1) Build additional capacity to serve special education students, including  
9 locating new special education programs within District of Columbia Public Schools  
10 facilities;

11 (2) Build additional capacity to provide vocational education to secondary  
12 school students in District of Columbia Public Schools;

13 (3) Co-locate public charter schools within District of Columbia Public  
14 Schools facilities;

15 (4) Develop shared-use community facilities through collaboration with  
16 the D.C. Public Library, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and other Executive  
17 Branch agencies.

18 (f) Except as provided in this act, and except for the leases otherwise subject to  
19 the provisions of an Act authorizing the sale of certain real property in the District of  
20 Columbia no longer required for public purposes, approved August 5, 1939, (53 Stat.  
21 1211; D.C. Official Code §10-801), all actions by the CEO shall be consistent with  
22 existing District law with regard to the sale and disposition of public school facilities and  
23 property.

1           Sec. 706. Public Oversight.

2           (a) Section 201 of the School Modernization Financing Act of 2006, approved  
3 June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-123; D.C. Official Code § 38-2973.01) is amended as  
4 follows:

5                   (1) Paragraph 1 of subsection 201(a) is amended by striking the phrase  
6 “of the Board of Education and those of the District” and insert the phrase “of the Mayor”  
7 in its place.

8                   (2) Paragraph 3 of subsection 201(a) is amended by striking the phrase  
9 “advise the Board of Education” and insert the phrase “advise the Chief Executive  
10 Officer of the District of Columbia Public Education Facilities Management and  
11 Construction Authority (“CEO”) in its place.

12                   (3) Subsection 201(g) is amended to read as follows:

13                           “(g) The Chairperson of the Committee shall be designated by the Mayor  
14 in consultation with the Council and Chief Financial Officer.”

15                   (4) Subsection 202(a) is amended by striking the word “Superintendent”  
16 and inserting the phrase “Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia Public  
17 Education Facilities Management and Construction Authority (“CEO”) in its place.

18                   (5) Subsection 202(b) is amended by striking the word “Superintendent”  
19 and inserting the word “CEO” in its place.

20                   (6) Subsection 202(c) is amended to read as follows:

21                           “(c) The Committee shall forward any written assessment provided to the  
22 CEO to the Mayor, the Council, the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public  
23 Schools, and the Chief Financial Officer.”

1                   (7) Subsection 202(d) is amended by striking the word “Superintendent”  
2 and inserting the word “CEO” in its place.

3                   (8) Paragraph (1) of subsection 202(e) is amended to read as follows:

4                   “(1) Within 30 days of receipt of the quarterly status report from the  
5 CEO, the Committee shall submit a copy of the report, any written analysis or concerns  
6 about specific items or projects within the report, and specific policy recommendations,  
7 to the Mayor, the Council, the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools, and  
8 the Chief Financial Officer.”

9                   (9) Paragraph (2) of subsection 202(e) is amended by striking the word  
10 “Superintendent” and inserting the word “CEO” in its place.

11                Sec. 707. The District of Columbia government shall be exempt from claims and  
12 suits against the Facilities Management and Construction Authority.

13                Sec. 708. The "District of Columbia Public Education Facilities Management and  
14 Construction Authority Establishment Act of 2007" shall be applicable upon the  
15 enactment of sections 702 through 705 of this title into law by the United States  
16 Congress.

17

## 18                TITLE VIII. PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

19                Sec. 801. This act may be cited as the “Public Charter Schools Accountability  
20 Reform Amendment Act of 2007”.

21                Sec. 802. School Reform Act Amendments.

22                (a) Section 2201 of District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995, effective  
23 April 26, 1996 (Public Law 104-132; D.C. Official Code 38-1802.01) is amended:

1 (1) By redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

2 (2) By adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

3 “(d) Existing public charter schools. A public charter school that existed  
4 prior to the effective date of the Public Charter Schools Accountability Reform  
5 Amendment Act of 2007, and that was chartered by the District of Columbia Board of  
6 Education pursuant to the Public Charter Schools Act of 1996, effective May 29, 1996  
7 (D.C. Law 11-135, D.C. Official Code § 38-1701.01 *et seq.*), shall not be required to file  
8 a petition with the Public Charter School Board. Such schools shall be considered  
9 approved and chartered for the purposes of the District of Columbia School Reform Act  
10 and shall be subject to the powers and duties granted to the Public Charter School Board  
11 as an eligible chartering authority pursuant section 2211, 2212, and 2213 of the District  
12 of Columbia School Reform Act, effective May 29, 1996 (D.C. Law 11-135, D.C.  
13 Official Code §§ 38-1802.11-13).”.

14 (c) Paragraph 2 of section 2203(j) of the District of Columbia School Reform Act  
15 of 1995, effective April 26, 1996 (Public Law 104-132; D.C. Official Code 38-1802.03)  
16 is amended to read:

17 “(2) Availability of review. A decision by an eligible chartering authority to deny  
18 a petition to establish a public charter school shall be subject to judicial review by an  
19 appropriate court of the District of Columbia or by the State Education Office. In the  
20 case of review by the State Education Office, the State Education Office shall issue  
21 procedures for the submission and review of appeals.”.

1 (b) Section 2212(a)(3) of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995,  
2 effective April 26, 1996 (Public Law 104-132; D.C. Official Code 38-1802.12(a)(3)) is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 “(3) Review. An eligible chartering authority that grants or renews a charter  
5 pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection shall review the charter:

6 “(A) At least once every 3 years to determine whether the charter should  
7 be revoked for the reasons described in subsection (a) or (b) of section 2213 in  
8 accordance with the procedures for such revocation established under section 22139(c);  
9 and

10 “(B) Once every 3 years, beginning on the date that is 3 years after the  
11 date on which the charter is granted or renewed, to determine whether the charter should  
12 be revoked for the reasons described in subsection (a) or (b) of section 2213 in its place  
13 in accordance with the procedures for such revocation established under section 2213(c).”

14 (c) Section 2213 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995,  
15 effective April 26, 1996 (Public Law 104-132; D.C. Official Code § 38-1802.13) is  
16 amended as follows:

17 (1) Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

18 “(a) Charter or law violations; failure to meet goals. An eligible  
19 chartering authority that has granted a charter to a public charter school or the State  
20 Education Office may revoke the charter if the eligible chartering authority or State  
21 Education Office determines that the school:

1                                   “(1) Committed a violation of the applicable laws or a material  
2 violation of the conditions, terms, standards, or procedures set forth in the charter,  
3 including violations relating to the education of children with disabilities; or

4                                   “(2) Has failed to meet the goals and student academic  
5 achievement expectations set forth in the charter.”.

6                                   (2) Subsection (c) is amended by striking paragraph (5) and inserting a  
7 new paragraph (5) in its place to read as follows:

8                                   “(5) Review by State Education Office. Action by an eligible  
9 chartering authority to revoke a charter under subsection (a) of this section may be  
10 appealed by the applicant or the charter school, as applicable, to the State Education  
11 Office. The State Education Office shall issue procedures for the submission and review  
12 of appeals.”

13                                   Sec. 803. The Public Charter Schools Act of 1996, effective May 29, 1996 (D.C.  
14 Law 11-135, D.C. Official Code § 38-1701.01 *et seq.*) is repealed.

15                                   Sec. 804. Applicability.

16                                   (a) The “Public Charter Schools Accountability Reform Amendment Act of 2007”  
17 shall be applicable upon the enactment of section 802 of this title into law by the United  
18 States Congress.

19

20                                   TITLE IX. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

21                                   Sec. 901. Section 301 of the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive  
22 Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Official  
23 Code § 1-603.01) is amended as follows:

1 (a) Section 301 (m) (13) (D.C. Official Code § 1-603.01 (13)) is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 "(13) The term "independent agency" means any board or commission of the  
4 District of Columbia government not subject to the administrative control of the Mayor,  
5 including, but not limited to, the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of  
6 Columbia, the Board of Library Trustees, the Armory Board, the Board of Elections and  
7 Ethics, the Public Service Commission, the Zoning Commission for the District of  
8 Columbia, the Public Employee Relations Board, the District of Columbia Retirement  
9 Board, and the Office of Employee Appeals. For the purposes of this chapter, the  
10 Council of the District of Columbia shall be considered an independent agency of the  
11 District of Columbia. For the purposes of subchapter XXVIII of this chapter, the  
12 Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission shall be considered an independent  
13 agency of the District."

14 (b) Section 301 (q) (D.C. Official Code § 1-603.01 (q)) is amended as follows:

15 (A) Strike the word "and" at the end of paragraph (51).

16 (B) Strike the period at the end of paragraph (52) and insert the phrase "  
17 and" in its place.

18 (C) A new paragraph (53) is added to read as follows:

19 "(53) District of Columbia Public Schools."

20 Sec. 902. Section 320 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act of  
21 1985, effective April 15, 1997 (D.C. Law 11-259; D.C. Official Code § 2-303.20) is  
22 amended by adding a new subsection (q) to read as follows:

1           "(q) Notwithstanding section 105(a), (b), (c), and (e) of the District of Columbia  
2 Procurement Practices Act of 1985, effective February 21, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C.  
3 Official Code § 2-301.05), the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools  
4 shall exercise procurement authority to carry out the purposes of the D.C. Public Schools,  
5 including contracting and contract oversight, consistent with the other provisions of this  
6 act."

7           Sec. 903. An Act To fix and regulate the salaries of teachers, school officers, and  
8 other employees of the board of education of the District of Columbia, approved June 20,  
9 1906 (34 Stat. 316; D.C. Official Code § 38-101 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

10           (a) Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 38-103) is amended by striking the phrase  
11 "the Board of Education" and inserting the phrase "the Chancellor of the District of  
12 Columbia Public Schools" in its place.

13           (b) Section 3(1) (D.C. Official Code § 38-105) is repealed.

14           (c) Section 3(2) (D.C. Official Code § 38-106) is repealed.

15           "The Board shall have power to remove the Superintendent at any time for  
16 adequate cause affecting his character and efficiency as Superintendent".

17           (d) Section 14 (D.C. Official Code § 38-156) is amended by striking the phrase  
18 "The Board of Education, upon the approval of the Mayor, and with the consent of the  
19 Council by resolution," and inserting the phrase "The Mayor, with the consent of the  
20 Council by resolution," in its place.

21           Sec. 904. Section 1 of An Act To authorize appointment of public-school  
22 employees between meetings of the Board of Education, approved April 22, 1932 (47  
23 Stat. 134; D.C. Official Code § 38-131), is amended to read as follows:

1 "The Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools is authorized to  
2 accept the resignation or the application for retirement of any employee, to grant leave of  
3 absence to any employee, to extend or terminate any temporary appointment, and to  
4 make all changes in personnel and appointments growing out of such resignation,  
5 retirement, leave of absence, termination of temporary appointment, or caused by the  
6 decease or suspension of any employee."

7 Sec. 905. Section 143 of the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 1995,  
8 approved September 30, 1994 (108 Stat. 2594; D.C. Official Code § 38-154 (a), (d) and  
9 (e)) is amended as follows:

10 (a) Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

11 "(a) Hereafter, the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools shall  
12 annually compile an accurate and verifiable report on the positions and employees in the  
13 public schools system in the District. The first such annual report shall be verified by  
14 independent auditors."

15 (b) Subsection (d) (1) is amended to read as follows:

16 "(d) (1) Not later than October 1, 2007, and each succeeding year or within 15  
17 calendar days after the date of the enactment of the District of Columbia Appropriations  
18 Act for the fiscal year beginning on such October 1 (whichever occurs first), the Mayor  
19 shall submit to Congress and to the Council of the District of Columbia, a revised  
20 appropriated funds operating budget for the public school system of the District for such  
21 fiscal year that is in the total amount of the approved appropriation and that realigns  
22 budgeted data for personal services and other-than-personal services, respectively, with  
23 anticipated actual expenditures."

1           Sec. 906. Section 2 of the District of Columbia Board of Education School Seal  
2 Act of 1978, effective August 2, 1978 (D.C. Law 2-96; D.C. Official Code § 38-155), is  
3 amended by striking the phrase "Board of Education of the District of Columbia" and  
4 inserting the phrase "the Mayor" in its place.

5           Sec. 907. Section 1203 of the Budget Support Act of 1995, effective March 5,  
6 1996 (D.C. Law 11-98; D.C. Official Code § 38-157), is amended as follows:

7           (a) By striking the phrase "District of Columbia Board of Education" wherever it  
8 appears and inserting the phrase "the District of Columbia Public Schools" in its place.

9           (b) By striking the word "Superintendent" in subsection (a) and inserting the word  
10 "Chancellor" in its place.

11           Sec. 908. Section 3 of the District of Columbia Public School Support Initiative  
12 of 1986, effective February 17, 1988 (D.C. Law 7-68; D.C. Official Code § 38-917), is  
13 amended by striking the phrase "District of Columbia Board of Education" and "Board of  
14 Education" wherever they appear, and inserting the phrase "the District of Columbia  
15 Public Schools" in their place.

16           Sec. 909. Section 104(d) of The District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act  
17 of 1985, effective February 21, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C. Official Code § 2-301.04(d)),  
18 is repealed.

19           Sec. 910. The School Modernization Financing Act of 2006, approved June 8,  
20 2006 (D.C. Law 16-123; D.C. Official Code § 38-2971.01 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

21           (a) Section 101(d) is amended to read:

22           “(d) Beginning on October 1, 2006, the Chief Financial Officer shall transfer any  
23 funds deposited in the Fund that are requested by the Mayor to the District of Columbia

1 Public Education Facilities Management and Construction Authority through the District  
2 of Columbia Public Schools capital budget, subject to the requirements of section 103.”.

3 (b) Section 103 is amended by striking the phrase “Board of Education”  
4 wherever it appears and inserting the phrase “District of Columbia Public Education  
5 Facilities Management and Construction Authority” in its place.

6 (c) Section 203 is amended to read:

7 “Sec. 203. Annual adoption of Capital Improvement Plan and Budget.

8 “No later than October 1, 2007, and no later than 90 days prior to commencement  
9 of each fiscal year thereafter, the Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia  
10 Public Education Facilities Management and Construction Authority, in consultation with  
11 the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools, shall develop and submit to  
12 the Mayor and Council a detailed Capital Improvement Plan and Budget to implement  
13 the approved Facilities Master Plan for the District of Columbia Public Schools. For  
14 each proposed capital project, the Capital Improvement Plan and Budget shall include a  
15 description of the scope of work to be done, the justification for the work per the  
16 Facilities Master Plan, the estimated project cost and schedule, and measurable  
17 benchmarks to be achieved by the end of the fiscal year for each project.”.

18 Sec. 911. Section 1104 of the School Based Budgeting and Accountability Act of  
19 1998, effective March 26, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-175; D.C. Official Code § 38-2803), is  
20 amended as follows:

21 (a) Section (a) is amended by striking the phrase “June 30, 2006” and inserting  
22 the phrase “October 1, 2007” in its place.

23 (b) Section (c) is amended to read:

1           “(c) In developing the Facilities Master Plan, the Mayor shall consult with the  
2 Council, the Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia Public Education  
3 Facilities Management and Construction Authority, the Public Charter School Board,  
4 representatives of public charter schools, and the Public School Modernization Advisory  
5 Committee, and shall consider the facilities needs of all public school students.”.

6           (c) Section (d) is amended by striking the phrase “Board of Education” and  
7 inserting the word “Mayor” in its place.

8           Sec. 912. Section 2552 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995,  
9 approved April 26, 1996 (110 Stat. 1321; D.C. Official Code § 38-1805.52) is amended  
10 by striking the phrase “Superintendent and Board of Education” and inserting the word  
11 “Mayor” in its place.

12

13           **TITLE X. FISCAL IMPACT; EFFECTIVE DATE**

14           Sec. 1001. Fiscal Impact.

15           The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the  
16 fiscal impact statement required by section 602 (c) (3) of the District of Columbia Home  
17 Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02 (c)  
18 (3)).

19           Sec. 1002. Applicability.

20           Title I, III through VI, and IX of this act shall not apply until Title II becomes  
21 effective.

22           Effective date.

1 Title II, VII, and VIII of this act shall take effect upon the enactment into law by  
2 the United States Congress. The remaining titles shall take effect following approval by  
3 the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action to override the veto), a 30-day  
4 period of Congressional review as provided in section 602 (c) (1) of the District of  
5 Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official  
6 Code § 1-206.02 (c) (1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.