

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

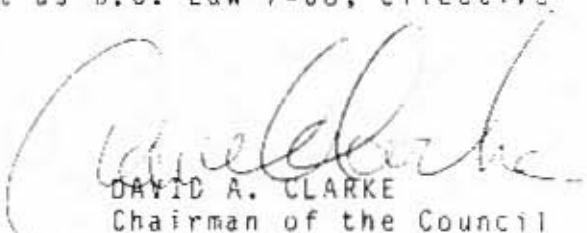
NOTICE

D.C. Law 7-68

"District of Columbia Public School  
Support Initiative of 1986".

Pursuant to Amendment #1 of the District of Columbia Self Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P.L. 93-198, "the Act", the electors of the District of Columbia voted on Initiative No. 25 on November 3, 1987. On November 17, 1987, the Board of Elections and Ethics certified the Election results as 54,729 for the Initiative and 16,223 against the Initiative. Following the certification of the results, this initiative was assigned Act No. 7-102, published in the December 4, 1987 edition of the D.C. Register, (Vol. 34 page 7737) and transmitted to Congress on November 23, 1987, for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602 (c)(1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional Review Period has expired, and therefore, cites this enactment as D.C. Law 7-68, effective February 17, 1988.

  
DAVID A. CLARKE  
Chairman of the Council

Dates Counted During the 30-day Congressional Review Period:

November 30

December 1,2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,14,15,16,17,18,21,22

January 25,26,27,28,29

February 1,2,3,4,5,8,9,16

D.C. LAW 7 - 6 8

D.C. ACT 7 - 1 0 2

NOV 1 7 1987

EFFECTIVE  
DATE FEB 1 7 1988

INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 25

SHORT TITLE

"DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL  
SUPPORT INITIATIVE OF 1986"

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"DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL  
SUPPORT INITIATIVE OF 1986"

SUMMARY STATEMENT

This measure establishes, as a matter of public policy, that funding for public schools in the District of Columbia be of the highest priority. It also establishes a schedule of public hearings before the Board of Education, the Mayor, and the Council of the District of Columbia at which members of the public may express their views on the needs of the public schools.

INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 25

BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To establish as a matter of public policy that funding for the public schools of the District of Columbia be of the highest priority and that citizens be afforded a full opportunity to express their views on the appropriate levels of funding required to assure quality education as part of the annual District of Columbia budget process.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,  
That this measure may be cited as the "District of Columbia Public School Support Initiative of 1986."

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.

In recognition of:

- (a) The critical importance of high quality public education for all students in the District of Columbia;
- (b) The need in District of Columbia Public Schools for smaller classes and supplemental instructional resources to address the needs of the many students requiring special attention;
- (c) The need to attract and retain highly qualified teachers and principals;
- (d) The need for District of Columbia Public School graduates to possess educational skills that render them competitive with graduates of suburban schools as regards employment and higher education;
- (e) The need to restore and repair school facilities throughout the District of Columbia; and
- (f) The fact that in recent years the budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools has increased at a rate substantially below that of almost all other District of Columbia agencies,

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED, that funding of the Public Schools be acknowledged as of the highest priority by the District of Columbia. This priority status for public education funding will be given due consideration by the District of Columbia Board of Education, the Council of the District of Columbia and the Mayor of the District of Columbia in all future proposals, recommendations, and legislative enactments affecting financial support of the Public Schools.

Sec. 3. Public Hearings.

In furtherance of this declared policy and in order to afford the people of the District of Columbia a full opportunity to express their views on the fiscal needs of the Public Schools, the following public hearings and transmissions of hearing records are required:

(a) Within a period of not more than 90 or less than 45 days prior to the annual submission by the District of Columbia Board of Education of a proposed budget to the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and upon 15 days public notice, the Board of Education shall conduct a public hearing for the purpose of soliciting the views of the public on programs and levels of public funding to be sought for the Public Schools. The budget proposed by the Board of Education shall, consistent with the public policy declared in this measure, give due consideration to the record established by the testimony and exhibits on the subjects listed in subsection (d) of this section. The Board of Education shall transmit the record of this hearing to the Mayor of the District of Columbia and to the Council of the District of Columbia at or before the hearings held by them pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(b) Within a period of not more than 60 days or less than 30 days prior to the Mayor's annual submission of a budget recommendation with respect to the Public Schools to the Council of the District of Columbia, and upon 15 days public notice, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall conduct a public hearing for the purpose of soliciting the views of the public on levels of public funding to be sought for the Public Schools. In no event shall this hearing be prior to the annual submission by the District of Columbia Board of Education of its proposed budget to the Mayor. The Public Schools budget recommendation submitted by the Mayor to the Council of the District of Columbia shall, consistent with the public policy declared in this measure, give due consideration to the record established by the testimony and exhibits on the subjects listed in subsection (d) of this section. The Mayor shall transmit the record of this hearing to the Council of the District of Columbia at or before the hearing held pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(c) At the public hearings required by Section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, approved Dec. 24, 1973 [87 Stat. 801; D.C. Code, §47-304, (1981 ed. and Supp. 1985)], the Council of the District of Columbia, not more than 30 days or less than 15 days before the adoption of the Budget Request Act, shall solicit testimony and exhibits on the subjects listed at subsection (d) of this section, and consistent with the public policy declared in this measure shall adopt a budget giving due consideration to the record established by the testimony and exhibits on those subjects.

(d) The hearings required by subsections (a), (b) and (c) of this section shall solicit and receive testimony and exhibits on the following subjects:

(1) The current and prospective educational needs of pupils in the District of Columbia Public Schools, educational programs that can address these needs and support systems needed for safety and efficiency;

(2) The relative levels of support provided in recent years and sought in the current budget requests for the District of Columbia Public Schools and other agencies of the District of Columbia Government. Particular attention will be placed on the levels of funding provided in the past and sought for agencies such as the Department of Corrections and the Department of Human Services, which must address the problems resulting in part from an educational system that lacks sufficient resources to address fully the needs of all of its students;

(3) The programs and levels of funding supported by the findings of relevant professional studies and commissions;

(4) The levels of funding for public schools systems in surrounding jurisdictions that have reputations for providing high quality education to their students.

Sec . 4. Severability.

If any provision of this initiative or its application to any persons or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this initiative, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.

Sec. 5. Effective Date.

This measure shall take effect as provided for initiative measures of the Electors of the District of Columbia in section 3 of Public Law 95-256, amending the Initiative, Referendum, and Recall Charter Amendments Act of 1977 (D.C. Law 2-46), and acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section 602(c) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act.