

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-106

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 4, 2019

To acknowledge and honor the 40th Anniversary of the Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) for offering youth of the District of Columbia professional development skills, career exploration, and paid work experience each summer.

WHEREAS, the Summer Youth Employment Program was launched in 1979 by former Mayor Marion S. Barry;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP provides over 10,000 youth ages 14 to 24 with jobs each summer at locations across the District;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP has been a foundational part of thousands of youth's personal and professional growth experiences over the course of forty years;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP, at its inception, offered significant employment opportunities to youth from Wards 7 and 8, a majority of whom came from economically and socially disadvantaged neighborhoods with scarce job opportunities;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP's primary goal is to introduce District youth to employers who will positively impact their futures by providing constructive experiences;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP's purpose is to provide youth with transferable work-related experiences that can prepare them for success in employment regardless of educational, financial, or social circumstances;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP's goals are to teach workplace norms and culture and to help youth develop skills in social engagement, communication, critical thinking, decision making, problem solving, and self-management to build self-confidence and self-awareness;

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WHEREAS, the MBSYEP allows youth to gain exposure to a myriad of industries;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP offers real-life work skills for District youth;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP participants have received over \$300,000 in scholarships to post-secondary institutions and military programs;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP offers youth an opportunity to become global citizens through a myriad of programs that focus on international affairs;

WHEREAS, the MBSYEP has been the launching pad for thousands of youth who were directly hired by their MBSYEP placement; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2015, the Summer Youth Employment Program was renamed the Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program in honor of former Mayor and founder, Marion S. Barry.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program 40th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the 40th Anniversary of the Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.