


  
Chairman Phil Mendelson

  
Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

  
Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

  
Councilmember Anita Bonds

  
Councilmember Elissa Silverman

  
Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

1 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION  
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6 COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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9 To acknowledge the Earned Income Tax Credit as an effective anti-poverty tool, to  
10 celebrate the work of organizations such as the United Way of the National Capitol Area, and to  
11 declare January 31<sup>st</sup> in the District of Columbia as "Earned Income Tax Credit Day."

12 WHEREAS, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is among the most effective anti-  
13 poverty programs in the nation;

14 WHEREAS, the District of Columbia's EITC program is among the strongest state-level  
15 EITCs in the nation and helps to pay for childcare, housing, food, and transportation to help keep  
16 working families economically stable;

17 WHEREAS, EITC advocacy, outreach, and free tax assistance is supported by local,  
18 state, and national partners and their funding, including the United Way NCA, Citi Community  
19 Development, the DC Department of Insurance Securities, and Banking, Community Tax Aid,  
20 Capital Area Asset Builders, United Planning Organization, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of  
21 Washington, and numerous partners in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and  
22 suburban Maryland;

23 WHEREAS, the United Way has found that 13% of residents in the greater Washington  
24 metropolitan region receive the EITC, including in the District alone approximately 14,000  
25 residents. About half of the District's EITC recipients are children, whom the EITC helps to lift  
26 out of poverty every year. As a result, these children are more likely to do better in school, attend

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27 college, and to be better earners as adults;

28 WHEREAS, the United Way has found that 20% of eligible workers do not claim the  
29 EITC, and the United Way of the National Capital Area's (United Way NCA) regional EITC  
30 coalition has therefore expanded its capacity to serve diverse residents in the District through  
31 collaboration with public, private and nonprofit partners who target these hard-to-reach families;

32 WHEREAS, low-to-moderate income families, including seniors, persons with a  
33 disability, and those with limited English proficiency receive free tax help and are economically  
34 empowered through the efforts of trained, IRS-certified volunteers affiliated with the Volunteer  
35 Income Tax Assistance (VITA), the Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs, the United Way  
36 NCA's tax resources, and MyFreeTaxes.com;

37 WHEREAS, collectively, the United Way NCA coalition tax partners completed 16,073  
38 returns through VITA in 2019, representing savings of an average of \$273 per family, and  
39 thereby returning \$1,103,715 to over 4,200 families through the Earned Income Tax Credit;

40 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
41 resolution may be cited as the "Earned Income Tax Credit Day Recognition Resolution of 2020".

42 Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the Earned Income Tax Credit as a benefit to low- and  
43 moderate-income individuals and families and celebrates the many efforts of organizations such  
44 as the United Way of the National Capital Area to provide free and accessible tax outreach and  
45 advocacy on behalf of District residents.

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