



## COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING  
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

**KENYAN R. McDUFFIE**  
Councilmember, Ward 5  
Chair Pro Tempore  
Chair, Committee on Business and  
Economic Development

**Committee Member**  
Finance and Revenue  
Labor and Workforce Development  
Transportation and the Environment  
Recreation and Youth Affairs

### **Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie Introduces Bill to Support Small Businesses Suffering Financial Distress from District Infrastructure Projects**

*The bill would provide immediate relief for qualifying small businesses including those impacted by the DC Water Northeast Boundary Tunnel construction at 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE and Rhode Island Avenue NE; as well as businesses impacted by Monroe Street NE bridge reconstruction*

**For Immediate Release:** Tuesday, March 5, 2019

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Washington, DC – Today, Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie, Chair Pro Tempore and Chair of the Committee on Business and Economic Development, introduced **The Small and Certified Business Enterprise Development and Assistance Emergency Amendment Act of 2019**. The legislation would provide emergency financial assistance to eligible small businesses within 500 feet of construction on District-owned or financed infrastructure. Small business owners would have to be able to demonstrate loss of revenue that leads to a difficulty in paying obligations, including utility costs, rent, and other overhead.

**With introduction of this legislation, Councilmember McDuffie said:**

*“Our small and local businesses are the drivers of our economy. They tend to hire locally and spend locally, keeping their dollars circulating in our community. With this infrastructure project negatively impacting Ward 5 small businesses, I knew I had to act.*

*This bill will provide relief for qualified small businesses and their employees by mitigating the financial hardship experienced because foot traffic and the number of customers are significantly impacted by capital infrastructure projects.”*

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