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A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1 To require the Chief Technology Officer to establish and execute a plan to install hybrid meeting
2 infrastructure in public facilities.

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4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
5 act may be cited as the “Hybrid Meeting Accessibility Act of 2023”.

6 Sec. 2. Definitions.

7 For the purposes of this act, the term:

8 (1) “ANC” means Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

9 (2) “Hybrid meeting infrastructure” means:

10 (A) Microphones capable of capturing and recording audio from no fewer
11 than 12 individuals;

12 (B) In-room audio amplification;

13 (C) Screens or projectors capable of clearly displaying video conferencing

14 software to both a panel and audience;

15 (D) One or more video cameras capable of capturing a majority of the
16 room; and

17 (E) The technology necessary to stream high-definition video and conduct
18 meetings over video conference platforms.

19 Sec. 3. Hybrid meeting infrastructure plan.

20 (a) The Mayor shall establish a plan for the installation of hybrid meeting infrastructure
21 in each ANC, pursuant to the following requirements:

22 (1) Within 60 days after the applicability date of this act, the Chief Technology
23 Officer shall transmit to Council and each ANC a report that includes:

24 (A) A list of locations proposed for installation of hybrid meeting
25 infrastructure, with one location in each ANC, as defined in the Advisory Neighborhood
26 Commission Boundaries Act of 2022, effective August 10, 2022 (D.C. Law 24-148; D.C.
27 Official Code § 1-207.38, note);

28 (B) Hours each proposed location shall be open to the public; and

29 (C) For any proposed location not part of a property owned by the District:

30 (i) Rationale for why that location was selected;

31 (ii) A description of public sites in that ANC and an explanation of
32 why each was not selected; and

33 (iii) The proposed cost for the District to rent, lease, or acquire the
34 proposed location.

35 (2) A public facility proposed for installation of hybrid meeting infrastructure
36 shall have seating capacity for no fewer than 25 individuals and ability to set up a seating

37 arrangement with a panel and audience facing each other.

38 (b) The Mayor shall provide a 30-day period of public comment on the report outlined in
39 subsection (a). The Mayor shall give great weight to comments received in this period, pursuant
40 to subchapter V of Chapter 3 of Title 1.

41 (1) Within 30 days after the close of public comment, the Mayor shall publish a
42 final list of locations for the installation of hybrid meeting infrastructure in each ANC.

43 Sec. 4. Installation and availability of public meeting rooms with hybrid meeting
44 infrastructure.

45 (a) The Mayor shall install hybrid meeting infrastructure as outlined in section 3 no later
46 than 225 days from the establishment of this act.

47 (b) The Mayor shall endeavor to ensure that meeting rooms with hybrid meeting
48 infrastructure minimize reverberation and maximize speech intelligibility for both virtual and in-
49 room attendees.

50 (c) The Mayor shall establish a centralized portal for the reservation of all public meeting
51 rooms with hybrid meeting infrastructure in the District and shall make such facilities available
52 for District residents free of cost, provided that an ANC shall have first priority in reserving the
53 public meeting room with hybrid meeting infrastructure within its boundaries.

54 (d) Within 90 days of the enactment of any ANC boundary change, the Mayor shall
55 ensure that each ANC has at least one public facility with hybrid meeting infrastructure.

56 Sec. 5. Fiscal impact statement.

57 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
58 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
59 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

60 Sec. 6. Applicability.

61 (a) This act shall apply upon the date of inclusion of its fiscal effect in an approved
62 budget and financial plan.

63 (b) The Chief Financial Officer shall certify the date of the inclusion of the fiscal effect in
64 an approved budget and financial plan, and provide notice to the Budget Director of the Council
65 of the certification.

66 (c)(1) The Budget Director shall cause the notice of the certification to be published in
67 the District of Columbia Register.

68 (2) The date of publication of the notice of the certification shall not affect the
69 applicability of this act.

70 Sec. 7. Effective date.

71 This act shall take effect after approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
72 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
73 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
74 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
75 Columbia Register.