



## COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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### ZACHARY PARKER

Ward 5 Councilmember  
Chair, Committee on Youth Affairs

### COMMITTEE MEMBER

Health  
Human Services  
Transportation and the Environment

October 4, 2025

Nyasha Smith, Secretary  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Secretary Smith,

Today I am introducing the Youth Records Oversight and Transparency Amendment Act of 2025. Please find enclosed a signed copy of the legislation.

While District law currently allows the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS), Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA), and Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to have restricted access to juvenile records, it does not enable the Committee itself, responsible for legislative oversight of DYRS, CFSA, and OAG, to access these records. In order to ensure optimal and efficient oversight, whichever Committee is vested with responsibilities must have access to crucial data that agencies under its oversight are eligible to receive. Furthermore, the law does not currently mandate clearly juvenile records access for the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children, tasked with improving outcomes for all CFSA-involved children.

The enclosed legislation is designed to close critical gaps in data access for the sake of Council oversight of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS), the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA), the Office of the Attorney General, and the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children. Without these key revisions, the youth affairs oversight system cannot function effectively. This legislation makes small changes to youth records access to help this system carry out essential tasks pursuant to its mandate.

This legislation:

- requires the Chair of the Council Committee with oversight of DYRS to be granted access to juvenile records in cases concerning delinquency or need of supervision cases when necessary for the discharge of official duties;

- requires the Chair of the Council Committee with oversight of CFSA to be granted access to juvenile records in cases of neglect when necessary for the discharge of official duties; and,
- requires the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children to access juvenile records necessary for the discharge of official duties.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Council to promote this important legislation.

Please do not hesitate to contact my Committee Director, Thomas Franco, at [tfranco@dccouncil.gov](mailto:tfranco@dccouncil.gov) or my Legislative Assistant, Allison Bailey, at [abailey@dccouncil.gov](mailto:abailey@dccouncil.gov) with any questions or concerns.

Signed,



Zachary Parker  
Councilmember, Ward 5  
Chair, Committee on Youth Affairs  
Council of the District of Columbia



Councilmember Zachary Parker

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend Chapter 23 of Title 16 of the D.C. Official Code to clarify juvenile case and social records access provided to appropriate Council entities and the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children for the purposes of enhancing oversight of the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this Act may be cited as the "Youth Records Transparency and Oversight Amendment Act of 2025".

Sec. 2. Chapter 23 of Title 16 of the D.C. Official Code as follows:

(a) Section 2331(c)(4) is amended by adding new subsections (H-J) to read as follows:

“(H) In delinquency or need of supervision cases, the Chair of the Council Committee with oversight over the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services and their designee(s) when necessary for the discharge of their official duties;

“(I) In neglect cases, the Chair of the Committee with oversight over the Child and Family Services Agency and their designee(s) when necessary for the discharge of their official duties; and

“(J) The Office of the Ombudsperson for Children when necessary for the discharge of its official duties.”.

(b) Section 2332(c)(4) is amended by adding new subsections (F-H) to read as follows:

“(F) In delinquency or need of supervision cases, the Chair of the Council Committee with oversight over the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services and their designee(s) when necessary for the discharge of their official duties;

“(G) In neglect cases, the Chair of the Committee with oversight over the Child and Family Services Agency and their designee(s) when necessary for the discharge of their official duties; and

“(H) The Office of the Ombudsperson for Children when necessary for the discharge of its official duties.”.

#### Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

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

#### Sec. 5. Effective date.

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