
Councilmember Jack Evans

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Councilmember Jack Evans introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To amend the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978 to make the Lunar New Year Day a recognized legal public holiday in the District of Columbia.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Lunar New Year Amendment Act of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council finds that:

- (1) There are approximately 12 million Asians living in the United States.
- (2) The first day of the Lunar Year is observed by many Asian communities, including Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean communities.
- (3) Other cities in the United States, including San Francisco and New York have enacted legislation to commemorate this annual event.
- (4) The Asian community is a vital and important part of the District of Columbia.
- (5) The legal public holiday of "Lunar New Year Day" would commemorate and celebrate the beginning of the new Lunar new year and recognize the contribution of the Asian community to the District of Columbia.

Sec.3. Section 1202 of the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Official Code § 1-612.02 (c)), is amended by adding a new paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) The first day of the lunar calendar each year starting in 2007 shall be Lunar New Year Day, which shall be a legal public holiday for the purpose of pay and leave of employees scheduled to work on that day.”.

Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 5. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following 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.