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3 Councilmember Mary Cheh


Councilmember Anita Bonds


Councilmember Jack Evans

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12 A BILL
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18 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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23 To amend Sections 2700 and 2800 of Title 20 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations
24 to regulate noise in the public space generated from amplifying sound devices by
25 implementing a plainly audible standard and enforcement standards; and to amend the
26 definition of a noise disturbance to include all residentially zoned districts.
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28 BE IT ENACTED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
29 act may be cited as the “Amplified Noise Amendment Act of 2018”.

30 Sec. 2. Section 2700 of Title 20 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (20
31 DCMR § 2700 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

32 (a) Section 2713 (20 DCMR § 2713) is amended as follows:

33 (1) Section 2713.3 (20 DCMR § 2713.3) is amended by inserting the phrase “but
34 not 20 DCMR § 2800” after the phrase “Any person who violates any provision of the Act”.

35 (2) A new section 2713.3(A) (20 DCMR § 2713.3(A)) is added to read:

36 “Any person who violates 20 DCMR § 2800 and continues or resumes the
37 violation after receiving a verbal warning from a Metropolitan Police Officer or from a law

38 enforcement official designated by the Chief of Police shall be punished by a fine not to exceed
39 three hundred dollars (\$300) or imprisonment not to exceed 10 days, or both.

40 (3) A new section 2713.3(B) (20 DCMR § 2713.3(B)) is added to read:

41 “When a Metropolitan Police Officer or law enforcement official arrests a
42 person for a violation, the Metropolitan Police Officer or law enforcement official may impound
43 for a period of 24 hours any device that generated the violation, pursuant to procedures established
44 by the Chief of Police.”

45 (b) Section 2799 (20 DCMR § 2799) is amended by striking the phrase “does not exceed
46 80 decibels inside the nearest occupied residence in districts zoned R1-A, R-1B, R-2, R-3, or R-
47 4” and inserting in its place the phrase “does not exceed 80 decibels inside the nearest occupied
48 residence in a residentially zoned district, as those terms are used in Title 11-A, Section 101.9 of
49 the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations”.

50 Sec. 3. Section 2800 of Title 20 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (20
51 DCMR § 2800 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

52 (a) Section 2800 (20 DCMR § 2800) is amended by adding a new section 2800.2(A) (20
53 DCMR § 2800.2(A)) to read:

54 “It shall be unlawful for any person to make, operate, use, or play any electronically
55 amplified sound in a public space that is plainly audible to an individual of normal hearing at a
56 distance of 100 feet or more, measured vertically, horizontally, or diagonally from the sound
57 source, as measured from public space or from inside a residential dwelling or commercial space.
58 This prohibition does not apply to handheld bullhorns.

59 (2) Section 2800.3 is amended as follows:

60 (A) Strike the phrase “Parades and public gatherings conducted” and
61 inserting “Parades, public gatherings, and demonstrations conducted” in its place.

62 (B) Strike the phrase “disturbance limitation” and inserting in its place the
63 phrase “disturbance limitation and this section in 20 DCMR § 2800” in its place.

64 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

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

68 Sec. 5. Effective date.

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