

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 356

To assign the responsibility for conducting prosecutions for violations of the laws of the District of Columbia to the head of a local prosecutor's office designated under local law of the District of Columbia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2025

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To assign the responsibility for conducting prosecutions for violations of the laws of the District of Columbia to the head of a local prosecutor's office designated under local law of the District of Columbia.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia
5 Prosecutor Home Rule Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF LOCAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**
2 **FOR CONDUCT OF ALL DISTRICT OF COLUM-**
3 **BIA PROSECUTIONS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 23–101, D.C. Official
5 Code, is amended by striking subsections (a) through (f)
6 and inserting the following:

7 “(a) Prosecutions for violations of all police or munic-
8 ipal ordinances or regulations of the District of Columbia
9 and for violations of all penal statutes of the District of
10 Columbia in the nature of police or municipal regulations
11 shall be conducted in the name of the District of Columbia
12 by the head of the local prosecutor’s office or the assist-
13 ants of the head of such office, except as may otherwise
14 be provided in any such ordinance, regulation, or statute
15 of the District of Columbia.

16 “(b) In this section, the ‘local prosecutor’s office’ is
17 the office designated under local law of the District of Co-
18 lumbia as the office responsible for conducting prosecu-
19 tions under this section.

20 “(c) Nothing in this section shall affect the authority
21 of the Attorney General of the United States or the United
22 States Attorney for the District of Columbia to exercise
23 jurisdiction concerning violations of the laws of the United
24 States.”.

25 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
26 this section shall apply with respect to violations of Dis-

1 triet of Columbia ordinances, regulations, and statutes
2 which occur after the expiration of the 1-year period which
3 begins on the date on which a local law of the District
4 of Columbia which designates the local prosecutor's office
5 for purposes of section 23–101(b), D.C. Official Code (as
6 amended by subsection (a)), takes effect.

7 (c) RETENTION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS BY CON-
8 TINUING EMPLOYEES.—With respect to any individual
9 who is an employee of the United States Attorney for the
10 District of Columbia as of the day before the date de-
11 scribed in subsection (b) and continues to be employed by
12 the local prosecutor's office designated for purposes of sec-
13 tion 23–101(b), D.C. Official Code (as amended by sub-
14 section (a))—

15 (1) such individual shall continue to be treated
16 as an employee of the Federal Government for pur-
17 poses of receiving benefits under any chapter of sub-
18 part G of part III of title 5, United States Code;
19 and

20 (2) such designated local prosecutor's office
21 shall be treated as the employing agency of the indi-
22 vidual with respect to such benefits.

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