

D.C. Mayor Signs Off on D.C. Employees Getting Paid Leave for COVID-19 Vaccines

By Teresa Burke Wright &

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Related Services

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On November 18, 2021, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser signed the [‘COVID Vaccination Leave Emergency Amendment Act of 2021’](#) and it has now been enacted. Accordingly, the Emergency Act will remain in effect for not more than 90 days, or until February 16, 2022.

The legislation ensures paid time off for both COVID-19 vaccination and recovery from any side effects.

Temporary legislation, which substantively mirrors the emergency legislation, is expected to come down the pipeline. However, the temporary legislation must first undergo a second reading by the D.C. Council, a mayoral review, and then a congressional review period and will expire after 225 days. The 225 days will allow sufficient time for permanent legislation to be enacted. Bearing this in mind, employers should immediately comply with the Emergency Act and update their policies and practices accordingly.

If you have questions about your compliance obligations under applicable federal or state laws, or need assistance with updating your policies and practices to ensure compliance with paid leave amendments, please reach out to the Jackson Lewis attorney with whom you often work, or any member of our Workplace Safety and Health Practice Group, our Disability, Leave and Health Management Practice Group, or our [COVID-19 team](#).