

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 402

To amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to revise references in such title to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to revise references in such title to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

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 “Words Matter for the
5 District of Columbia Courts Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLEC-**
7 **TUAL DISABILITIES.**

8 (a) JURISDICTION OF UNITED STATES DISTRICT
9 COURT.—Section 11–501(2)(D), District of Columbia Of-

1 ficial Code, is amended by striking “substantially retarded
2 persons” and inserting “persons with moderate intellec-
3 tual disabilities”.

4 (b) JURISDICTION OF SUPERIOR COURT.—Section
5 11–921(a)(4)(D), District of Columbia Official Code, is
6 amended by striking “substantially retarded persons” and
7 inserting “persons with moderate intellectual disabilities”.

8 (c) JURISDICTION OF FAMILY COURT.—Section 11–
9 1101(a)(15), District of Columbia Official Code, is amend-
10 ed by striking “the at least moderately mentally retarded”
11 and inserting “persons with moderate intellectual disabil-
12 ities”.

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