


**Council of the District of Columbia**  
**COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**  
**Memorandum**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

**TO:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
**FROM:** Elissa Silverman, Chairperson   
**RE:** Request to Place Measures on the Agenda for the June 1, 2021, regular Legislative Meeting  
**DATE:** May 26, 2021

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I respectfully request a waiver of Council Rule 231(c) to place the following measures on the agenda for the June 1, 2021, Regular Legislative Meeting. I also request that these measures be agendaized for an Additional Committee of the Whole Meeting on the same day, should one be scheduled:

- PR24-197, the “Public Employee Relations Board Mary Ann Gibbons Confirmation Resolution of 2021”
- PR24-218, the “Public Employee Relations Board Renée Bowser Confirmation Resolution of 2021”

The Public Employee Relations Board or “PERB” is the quasi-judicial agency tasked with hearing and resolving disputes between the District and unionized employees and ensuring that the terms of collective bargaining agreements are honored. The Board is composed of five members: three are neutral members, one is a labor seat, and the other is a management seat.

These measures nominate Ms. Mary Anne Gibbons and Ms. Renée Bowser to the management and labor seats, respectively, that will become vacant in June 2021.

Ms. Gibbons has over forty years of experience as a labor attorney and extensive experience as a labor relations expert. She began her legal career at the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Fund, where she served as an attorney and Assistant General Counsel from 1980 to 1985. She then served as an attorney at the United States Postal Service (USPS) in 1985, was promoted into the management service at USPS in 1992, and eventually was promoted to lead that office as the USPS General Counsel from 1999 to 2013. Ms. Gibbons has taught at Georgetown and American law schools, and served two prior terms on the Board; if approved, her nomination would initiate her third term of service at PERB.

Ms. Bowser has extensive legal experience in labor relations and collective bargaining. She began her career at the National Labor Relations Board as an attorney advisor from 1983 to 1985. She then moved on to serve as an assistant general counsel at the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) International Union from 1985 until 2018, when she retired. Ms. Bowser has taught collective bargaining and arbitration at Howard University Law School, and she served as a commissioner for two terms at the DC Commission on Human Rights.

The Committee held a roundtable on both nominations on May 19, 2021. On May 24, 2021, the Committee met and approved both measures unanimously.

The reports and prints of both measures have been filed with the Secretary's office and are attached.

If you have any questions regarding these measures, please contact Legislative Analyst Richard Grant at 727-8113 or [rgrant@dccouncil.us](mailto:rgrant@dccouncil.us).

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of the General Counsel  
Office of the Budget Director