COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Committee on Labor and Workforce Development

Elissa Silverman, Chairperson

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

To: Chairman Phil Mendelson

Councilmember Elissa Silverman From:

Date: July 29, 2021

Request to Agendize for the August 3, 2021, Additional Legislative Meeting **Subject:**

I respectfully request the following emergency and temporary measures be placed on the agenda for the August 3, 2021, Additional Legislative Meeting:

- Coronavirus Unemployment Compensation Provisions Sunset Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021
- Coronavirus Unemployment Compensation Provisions Sunset Emergency Amendment Act of 2021
- Coronavirus Unemployment Compensation Provisions Sunset Temporary Amendment Act of 2021

This legislation will sunset temporary provisions of the unemployment insurance law that were originally enacted in March 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the District but which will no longer be federally supported after September 6, 2021.

With the end of the public health emergency, the return of many workers who were unemployed to work, the reopening of businesses, and the end of expanded federal unemployment programs, the District's unemployment insurance program should return to applying the permanent and regular provisions of law to claimants seeking benefits for unemployment after September 4, 2021.

Several federally-created unemployment insurance programs such as Pandemic Extended Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), and additional other temporarily expanded federal rules will no longer be available to workers claiming unemployment benefits for weeks of unemployment after September 6, 2021 under the terms of those federal laws. At the same time, funds provided to the District for paying benefits under federal programs will also no longer be available for weeks of unemployment after September 6, 2021. (Because UI claimants in DC receive payments for weeks ending on a Saturday, the last day for which benefits will be paid in DC is September 4, 2021.)

Note that claimants awaiting payments for unemployment during the period covered by the law (i.e., weeks of unemployment before September 4, 2021) can still claim and be paid for those benefits after September 4, 2021, provided they comply with DOES's filing requirements.

If you have any questions regarding these measures, please contact Margaret O'Hora at 202-724-8829 or mohora@dccouncil.us.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia Office of the Secretary