

Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Act to confirm Natalie Hopkins and Cora Masters Barry as members of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, for terms ending June 30, 2024.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Commission on the Arts and Humanites Member Confirmation Emergency Amendment Declaration Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. (a) Immediate legislation is required to ensure that Natalie Hopkins and Cora Masters Barry are reappointed as members of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH).

(b) On May 17, 2021, the Mayor sent nominations, to be confirmed by the Council, for Natalie Hopkins and Cora Masters Barry to serve as members of the CAH, for terms ending June 30, 2024.

(c) The reappointment resolutions for both nominees were referred to the Committee of the Whole, but no Council action has occurred to approve the nominations.

(d) It is critical that both nominations are approved by the Council to continue the momentum and progress the CAH has been making towards ensuring greater equity in grant funding for artists and arts organizations.

(g) Natalie Hopkinson serves on the Public Art Committee and the Arts Education Committee, while Cora Masters Barry services on the Grants Committee and the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Access Committee. It is clear they currently serve critical roles as members of the CAH.

(g) Immediate action by the Council is necessary to prevent the reappointment resolutions from being deemed disapproved by the Council on November 3, 2021.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute an emergency making it necessary that the “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Member Confirmation Emergency Amendment Declaration Resolution of 2021” be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.