


Council of the District of Columbia
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING & EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION
MEMORANDUM

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

FROM: Councilmember Anita Bonds 

RE: Request to Agendize Measures for the December 21, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting

DATE: December 15, 2021

I am writing to request the following measure be placed on the agenda of the December 21, 2021 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. If the Committee of the Whole does not have a meeting on December 21, 2021, pursuant to Council Rule 426, regarding a waiver of Rule 231(c), I request the measure to be agendized at the Additional Legislative Meeting on December 21, 2021, should one be scheduled. The measure was marked up by the Committee on Housing and Executive Administration on December 1, 2021 and filed with the Secretary's Office. It is vitally important for this measure to have its first reading before the end of the calendar year, and, if approved, to move toward final passage in early January 2022, because it will have an impact on the operations of the DC Superior Court, and on a significant number of new cases that are expected to be filed in the coming months, as eviction cases once again start to move through the court system. The measure has the potential to benefit a significant number of individuals under the protections it affords.

Measure from the Committee:

- “Eviction Record Sealing Authority and Fairness in Renting Amendment Act of 2021”

The measure was marked up by the Committee on Housing and Executive Administration on December 1, 2021 and was approved unanimously. The measure includes the following protections; 1) new written notice requirements for housing providers in nonpayment of rent cases; 2) new threshold requirements in nonpayment of rent cases; 3) the sealing of Court records in all eviction cases that do not result in a judgement for possession in favor of the housing provider; 4) the sealing, after three years, of all Court eviction records, except under certain limited circumstances; and 5) enhanced protections against discrimination in housing based on a tenant's source of income, adding the existence of a sealed eviction record as a protected trait under the District's Human Rights Act.

A copy of the measure and committee report are attached. Please contact Ram Uppuluri, at ruppuluri@dccouncil.us, or at (202)724-8171 with any questions.

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

Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Budget Director
Mayor's Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs