

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & THE ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

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**TO:** All Councilmembers

**FROM:** Councilmember Charles Allen   
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment

**DATE:** March 28, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Report on Bill 25-138, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023”

The Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to which Bill 25-0138, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023” was referred, reports favorably thereon and recommends approval by the Council.

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**I. BACKGROUND AND NEED**

On February 15, 2023, Bill 25-0138, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023,” was introduced by Councilmembers Allen, Robert White, McDuffie, Trayon White, Parker, Henderson, and Pinto. This bill amends the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937 to authorize the Mayor to design and issue motor vehicle identification tags with a design, identifying words or emblem that demonstrates support for the Washington Wizards basketball team and to make conforming amendments. The Committee on Transportation and the Environment held a public hearing on B24-0654, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022”, on July 13, 2022. Bill 24-0654 is substantially similar to Bill 25-0138, and, therefore, pursuant to Council Rule 501(a)(2), the hearing record for Bill 24-0654 is incorporated into this report.

The Washington Wizards are the most prominent of the Washington Metro region’s men’s professional basketball teams. Like the Washington Mystics, Washington Nationals, and the Washington Capitals, the Wizards are vital to the District’s sports culture. Notably, along with the Capitals, the Wizards are currently the longest-tenured sports team in the District. A member of the

National Basketball Association (“NBA”) Eastern Conference Southeast Division, the team has played Wizards in the District since 1997, after a long history of predecessor teams dating back to their formation in 1961. Anchored at Capital One Arena, the Wizards boast accolades that include 28 playoff appearances, four conference title wins, and eight division title wins, and have appeared in several NBA Finals, including a win in 1978. In 2022, the Wizards drew more than 600,000 fans, and the arena they share with the Capitals has been a major factor in revitalizing the Chinatown area.

The Wizards organization is also incredibly active off the court, leading efforts such as a Black History Month and HBCU/Education Night to increase awareness about the history of Washington, DC, and an annual Women’s Night. This bill recognizes the significant achievements and contributions of the Washington Wizards by allowing District residents to purchase tags that support the Washington Wizards like residents can do for other major league sports teams based in the District.

## II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| February 3, 2022  | Bill 24-654, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor in the Office of the Secretary.   |
| February 15, 2022 | Bill 24-654 is referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.   |
| February 18, 2022 | Notice of Intent to Act on Bill 24-654 is published in the <i>District of Columbia Register</i> .   |
| June 10, 2022     | Notice of Public Hearing on Bill 24-654 is published in the <i>District of Columbia Register</i> .  |
| July 13, 2022     | Public Hearing on Bill 24-654 is held by the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.   |
| February 15, 2023 | Bill 25-138, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023,” is introduced by Councilmembers Charles Allen, Robert C. White, Jr., Kenyan R. McDuffie, Trayon White, Zachary Parker, Christina Henderson, and Brooke Pinto in the Office of the Secretary. |
| February 21, 2023 | Bill 25-138 is referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.   |
| February 24, 2023 | Notice of Intent to Act on Bill 25-168 is published in the <i>District of Columbia Register</i> .   |
| March 28, 2023    | Consideration and vote on Bill 25-138 is held by the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.   |

### III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

In hearing testimony, DMV Director Gabriel Robinson expressed support for B24-0654 as proposed. Director Robinson identified that the DMV currently has tags for Washington Capitals, Washington Nationals, and the Washington Mystics. He noted that the revenue generated from the tags varies, citing resident interest and the success of marketing efforts through DMV's newsletter, social media, and other means of communication, along with residents seeing the tag on other vehicles. In response to a question from Chairperson Cheh, Director Robinson also registered no objection to tags being legislated for DC United and the Washington Spirit, the District-based National Soccer League, and National Women's Soccer League clubs, respectively.

### IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no comments or written statements from Advisory Neighborhood Commissions.

### V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee on Transportation and the Environment held a public hearing on Bill 24-0654 on July 13, 2022. A video recording of the hearing can be found at <https://entertainment.dc.gov/node/1604941>. The testimony received at the hearing is summarized below. Written statements received by the Committee are attached.

*Cathy Jerome, Sr. Director of Marketing for the Washington Wizards*, testified in support of Bill 24-0654. Ms. Jerome noted that Monumental Entertainment, the corporation that owns and operates the Washington Wizards basketball team, also owns and operates Capitol One Arena in the District. She testified in strong support of the bill, citing similar legislation that authorized plates for the Washington Capitals and the Washington Mystics, other teams owned by Monumental Entertainment. Ms. Jerome briefly outlined the history of the Washington Wizards' tenure in the District, dating back to their time playing at what was then the MCI Center. She discussed the extensive community service and engagement that the Washington Wizards does off the court, specifically citing service contributions to Ward 8.

### VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Bill 25-138 amends the Title IV of the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937, approved August 17, 1937 (50 Stat. 679; D.C. Official Code § 50-1501.01 et seq.) by adding a new section ("Sec. 2m") to allow the Mayor to design and make available for issue one or more motor vehicle identification tags to demonstrate support for the Washington Wizards basketball team.

### VII. FISCAL IMPACT

According to the March 27, 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement by the Chief Financial Officer, funds are sufficient in the FY24 through FY27 budget and financial plan to implement Bill 25-138.

## VIII. RACIAL EQUITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Pursuant to Rule 311(b), this bill does not require a racial equity impact assessment from the Council Office on Racial Equity.

## IX. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of Bill 25-138.
<u>Section 2</u>	(a) Amends Title IV of the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937 to allow for the issuance of motor vehicle identification tags demonstrating support for the Washington Wizards basketball team; (b) Specifies one-time fees for each year, including an application fee and a display fee.
<u>Section 3</u>	Fiscal Impact Statement
<u>Section 4</u>	Establishes the effective date by stating the standard 30-day Congressional review language.


## X. COMMITTEE ACTION

On March 28, 2023, the Committee met to consider Bill 24-138, the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023.” The meeting was called to order at 11:34 a.m., and Bill 25-138 was item 1 on the agenda. After ascertaining a quorum (Chairperson Allen, and Councilmembers Henderson and Frumin), Chairperson Allen moved the committee print and report for Bill 25-138 with leave for staff to make technical, conforming, and editorial changes. After an opportunity for further discussion, the voice vote on the committee print and report was 3-0 (Chairperson Allen, and Councilmembers Henderson and Frumin voted aye; 0 nay). After an opportunity for further discussion, the roll call vote on the committee print and report, en bloc, was 3 (Chairperson Allen, and Councilmembers Henderson and Frumin voted aye; 0 nay). The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

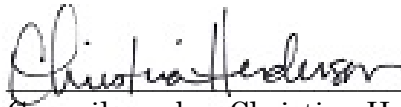
## XI. ATTACHMENTS

- (A) Bill 25-138 as introduced
- (B) Hearing Record for B24-654
- (C) Fiscal Impact Statement for Bill 25-138
- (D) Legal Sufficiency Determination for Bill 25-138
- (E) Comparative Committee Print for Bill 25-138
- (F) Committee Print for Bill 25-138

# ATTACHMENT A


1   
2 Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

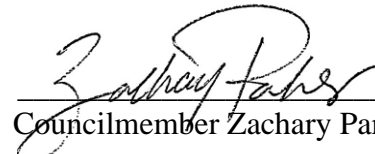
  
Councilmember Charles Allen

3  
4   
5 Councilmember Christina Henderson

  
Councilmember Brooke Pinto

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10 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

  
Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

11  
12  
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15 Councilmember Zachary Parker

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18  
19 A BILL

20  
21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22  
23  
24 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

25  
26 To amend the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937 to authorize the Mayor to design and  
27 issue motor vehicle identification tags with a design, identifying words, or emblem that  
28 demonstrates support for the Washington Wizards basketball team and to make conforming  
29 amendments.

30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
31 act may be cited as the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act  
32 of 2023”.

33 Sec. 2. Title IV of the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937, approved August 17,  
34 1937 (50 Stat. 680; D.C. Official Code § 50-1501.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

35 (a) A new section 2m is added to read as follows:

36 “Sec. 2m. Issuance of Washington Wizards motor vehicle identification tags.

37           “(a) The Mayor may design and make available for issue one or more Washington  
38 Wizards motor vehicle identification tags to demonstrate support for the Washington Wizards  
39 basketball team.

40           “(b)(1) A resident ordering a Washington Wizards tag shall pay a one-time application fee  
41 and a display fee each year thereafter. The application fee shall be \$25, and the display fee shall  
42 be \$20, or such other amounts as the Mayor may establish by rule.

43           “(2) The application and annual display fees shall be deposited into the General  
44 Fund of the District of Columbia.”.

45           (b) Section 3 (D.C. Official Code§ 50-1501.03) is amended as follows:

46           (1) Subsection (a)(1) is amended by adding a new subparagraph (Q) to read as  
47 follows:

48                   “(Q) Any person ordering a Washington Wizards identification tag shall  
49 pay the fees set forth in section 2m(b)(1) of this act.”.

50           (2) Subsection (d) is amended as follows:

51                   (A) Paragraph (13) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and inserting  
52 a semicolon in its place.

53                   (B) Paragraph (14) is amended by striking the period and inserting the  
54 phrase “; and” in its place.

55                   (C) A new paragraph (15) is added to read as follows:

56                   “(15) The fees collected for the Washington Wizard identification tags under  
57 section 2m of this act shall be deposited into the General Fund of the District of Columbia.”.

58           Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

59           The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal

60 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,  
61 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code§ 1-301.47a).

62           Sec. 4. Effective date.

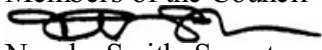
63           This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
64 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as  
65 provided in section 602(c)(I) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
66 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code§ 1-206.02(c)(I)), and publication in the District of  
67 Columbia Register.



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington D.C. 20004**

Memorandum

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To : Members of the Council  
  
From : Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council  
Date : Friday, February 17, 2023  
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Wednesday, February 15, 2023. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023", B25-0138

INTRODUCED BY: Councilmembers Allen, Pinto, R. White, Parker, McDuffie, Henderson, and T. White

The Chairman is referring this legislation to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

Attachment  
cc: General Counsel  
Budget Director  
Legislative Services

# ATTACHMENT B

**Council of the District of Columbia  
Committee on Transportation and the Environment**

**Hearing Record**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 108, Washington, DC 20004

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To: Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

From: Mary M. Cheh, Chairperson  
Committee on Transportation and the Environment



Date: August 3, 2022

Subject: PR24-763, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Howard Gibbs Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-764, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Rachna Butani Bhatt Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-765, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Dr. Joe Leonard Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-766, the Food Policy Council Karyn Bigelow Confirmation Resolution of 2022; B24-654, the Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022; B24-657, the Behavioral Health Awareness Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022; B24-824, the Pride Plates Amendment Act of 2022; and B24-837, the Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022

On July 13, 2022, the Committee on Transportation and the Environment held a public hearing on “PR24-763, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of

Directors Howard Gibbs Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-764, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Rachna Butani Bhatt Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-765, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Dr. Joe Leonard Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-766, the Food Policy Council Karyn Bigelow Confirmation Resolution of 2022; B24-654, the Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022; B24-657, the Behavioral Health Awareness Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022; B24-824, the Pride Plates Amendment Act of 2022; and B24-837, the Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022

”. Notice of this public hearing was published in the *District of Columbia Register* on June 17, 2022 and the record remained open until July 27 2022. A video recording of the hearing can be viewed online at [oct.dc.gov](http://oct.dc.gov)

The following witnesses submitted testimony for the record:

- Ward 7 Commissioners
- Karya Bigelow
- Cathy Jerome
- WRAP

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- (A) Witness List
- (B) Hearing Notice
- (C) Copies of written testimony

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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COMMITTEE ON  
**TRANSPORTATION & THE ENVIRONMENT**

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MARY M. CHEH, CHAIR

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON**

**PR24-763, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors  
Howard Gibbs Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**

**PR24-764, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors  
Rachna Butani Bhatt Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**

**PR24-765, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors  
Dr. Joe Leonard Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**

**PR24-766, the Food Policy Council Karyn Bigelow Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**

**B24-654, the Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment  
Act of 2022;**

**B24-657, the Behavioral Health Awareness Motor Vehicle Identification Tags  
Amendment Act of 2022;**

**B24-824, the Pride Plates Amendment Act of 2022; and**

**B24-837, the Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022**

Wednesday, July 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Councilmember Cheh's Facebook Page** ([facebook.com/cmmarycheh](https://facebook.com/cmmarycheh))

**DC Council Website** ([dccouncil.us](https://dccouncil.us))

**Council Channel 13** (Cable Television Providers)

**Office of Cable Television Website** ([entertainment.dc.gov](https://entertainment.dc.gov))

PUBLIC WITNESS

1. Cathy Jerome, Sr. Director of Marketing for the Washington Wizards

GOVERNMENT WITNESS

1. Gabriel Robinson, Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles

NOMINEES

1. Howard Gibbs, Water and Sewer Authority
2. Rachna Butani Bhatt, Water and Sewer Authority
3. Karyn Bigelow, Food Policy Council

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & THE ENVIRONMENT**  
MARY M. CHEH, CHAIR

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON**

- PR24-763, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Howard Gibbs Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**  
**PR24-764, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Rachna Butani Bhatt Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**  
**PR24-765, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Dr. Joe Leonard Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**  
**PR24-766, the Food Policy Council Karyn Bigelow Confirmation Resolution of 2022;**  
**B24-654, the Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022;**  
**B24-657, the Behavioral Health Awareness Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022;**  
**B24-824, the Pride Plates Amendment Act of 2022; and**  
**B24-837, the Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022**

Wednesday, July 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
**Councilmember Cheh's Facebook Page** ([facebook.com/cmmarycheh](https://www.facebook.com/cmmarycheh))  
**DC Council Website** ([dccouncil.us](https://www.dccouncil.us))  
**Council Channel 13** (Cable Television Providers)  
**Office of Cable Television Website** ([entertainment.dc.gov](https://www.entertainment.dc.gov))

On Wednesday, July 13, 2022 Councilmember Mary M. Cheh, Chairperson of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, will hold a public roundtable on PR24-0763, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Howard Gibbs Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-0764, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Rachna Butani Bhatt Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-0765, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Dr. Joe Leonard Confirmation Resolution of 2022; PR24-0766, the Food Policy Council Karyn Bigelow Confirmation Resolution of 2022; B24-654, the Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022; B24-657, the Behavioral Health Awareness Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022; B24-824, the Pride Plates Amendment Act of 2022; and B24-837, the Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022. The hearing will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be broadcast live on DC Council Channel 13 and streamed live at [www.dccouncil.us](https://www.dccouncil.us), [facebook.com/cmmarycheh](https://www.facebook.com/cmmarycheh), and [entertainment.dc.gov](https://www.entertainment.dc.gov).

PR24-0763 would confirm Howard Gibbs as a member of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors. PR24-0764 would confirm Rachna Butani Bhatt as a member of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors. PR24-0765 would confirm Dr. Joe Leonard as a member of the District of Columbia Water and

Sewer Authority Board of Directors. PR24-0766 would confirm Karyn Bigelow as a member of the Food Policy Council.

B24-654, B24-657, and B24-824 would each authorize the Mayor to design and issue a motor vehicle identification tag demonstrating support for the Washington Wizards, behavioral health awareness, and the LGBTQ community, respectively.

B24-837 expands the mandatory use of an ignition interlock device—currently required by any District of Columbia licensee who has committed a drinking and driving offense in a United States jurisdiction—to individuals who violated such laws on military bases or in a foreign country. It also requires District of Columbia licensees who refuse to take a chemical test, as required by law, to enter the ignition interlock program.

Due to the imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of District residents posed by the spread of the coronavirus, the Council has adapted the methods by which committees may hold public hearings and roundtables to comply with social distancing, large public gatherings, and other public health and safety requirements. Therefore, this public roundtable will be held remotely through the Zoom teleconferencing platform.

The Committee invites the public to testify or to submit written testimony, which will be made a part of the official record. Anyone wishing to testify should contact Ms. Aukima Benjamin, Staff Assistant to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, at least 24 hours prior to the start of the roundtable at (202) 724-8062 or via e-mail at [abenjamin@dccouncil.us](mailto:abenjamin@dccouncil.us); witnesses will receive information on how to join the roundtable at that time. Witnesses who anticipate needing language interpretation, or requiring sign language interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee of the need as soon as possible but no later than five business days before the roundtable, which is July 6, 2022. We will make every effort to fulfill timely requests; however, requests received in less than five business days may not be fulfilled and alternatives may be offered.

If you are unable to testify at the public roundtable, written statements are encouraged and will be made a part of the official record; testimony may be submitted to [abenjamin@dccouncil.us](mailto:abenjamin@dccouncil.us). The public may also leave voicemail testimony for the Committees by calling (202) 350-1344, which will be transcribed and made part of the roundtable record. Members of the public leaving voicemail testimony should speak slowly and clearly, state their full name and the organization they represent, if any, and note the bill, roundtable, or agency that they are submitting testimony on. Members of the public are asked to not provide an e-mail, phone number, or other personal contact information in voicemail testimony.

The record will close at the end of the business day on July 27, 2022.





# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7F

## 7F Commissioners

**Commissioner**  
**Tyrell M. Holcomb, 7F01**  
*Chairman*

**Commissioner**  
**Terrance Hunter, 7F02**  
*Economic Development, Chair*

**Commissioner**  
**Whitney Weston, 7F03**  
*Secretary*  
*Public Safety, Chair*

**Commissioner**  
**Racquel Codling, 7F04**  
*Transportation Public Space,*  
*Chair*

**Commissioner**  
**Brittany N. Hughes, 7F05**  
*Vice-Chair*  
*Community Engagement, Chair*

**Commissioner**  
**Shirley Thompson-Wright,**  
**7F06**

**Commissioner**  
**Joel Caston, 7F07**  
*Treasurer*  
*Returning Citizens Affairs,*  
*Chair*

July 19, 2022

Councilmember Mary Cheh,

As a Commissioner of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7F and a Ward 7 resident, I'm writing to express my support for Bill B24-654, an act to authorize motor vehicle identification tag demonstrating support for the Washington Wizards.

The Washington Wizards are heavily involved in community engagement in Ward 7. On many occasions, the Wizards have invited students in 7F to their games free-of-charge. Moreover, the Washington Wizards have been fully supportive of black owned businesses East of the River.

This legislation would allow our community to show acknowledgement to these kindly acts and a team that has always put community first.

Best Regards

Brittany N. Hughes  
Commissioner, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7F  
Commissioner, 7F05

Good afternoon Chairwoman Cheh and members of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment. My name is Cathy Jerome and I am Senior Director of Marketing for Washington Wizards. I am joined by Crispus Gordon, III Director of Government Relations and Community Affairs at Monumental Sports & Entertainment (MSE). Monumental Sports is one of the most innovative sports and entertainment companies in the country with one of the most diverse partnership groups in all of sports. MSE owns and operates five professional sports teams: the NBA Washington Wizards, the 2019 WNBA Champion Washington Mystics, NBA G League's Capital City Go-Go, NBA 2K League's Wizards District Gaming, and the 2018 NHL Stanley Cup Champion Washington Capitals. MSE also has controlling interest in the global esports franchise, Team Liquid. Monumental Sports & Entertainment owns and operates Capital One Arena in Washington, D.C., and manages the Entertainment and Sports Arena (ESA) located on the St. Elizabeth's East campus in Ward 8.

At MSE, we invest and innovate to consistently raise the game to deliver extraordinary experiences that will inspire and unite our community, our fans, and our people. Today, I am testifying in support of Bill 24-654, the "Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2022," which authorizes the Mayor to design and issue motor vehicle identification tags that demonstrate support for the Wizards basketball team in the same manner as the Washington Capitals and Washington Mystics.

The Washington Wizards have played their home games at Capital One Arena (then known as the MCI Center and later the Verizon Center) since 1997, making them—along with the Capitals—currently the longest tenured sports team located in the District of Columbia. During this time, the team has had the opportunity to engage with the community both on and off the court. For example, during our most recent 2021-2022 season—as part of Black History

Month and our HBCU/Education Night, the Wizards and Mahogany Books, a Ward 8 based minority and woman owned business hosted a pop up shop in Capital One Arena where fans were able to purchase books throughout the game and learn more about the history of DC. Also, prior to our annual Women's Night on March 27<sup>th</sup>, we hosted a pre-game mixer event for our female fans to mingle with the women executives who are in leadership with Mystics and Wizards.

Furthermore, our foundation—which encompasses all of our teams— has provided more than \$3.75 million to 86 unique organizations such as Martha's Table, DC Central Kitchen and the Greater Washington Urban League since 2018; \$1.5 million of these funds has gone to organizations that work specifically in Ward 8.

We are proud to be here in our beloved city and we want to give our fans an opportunity to obtain license plates supporting our Washington Wizards just like our fans in Maryland are currently able to do now. I would like to thank you Chairwoman Cheh and the committee for allowing me to testify this afternoon and I am available to answer any questions that you may have.

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Food Policy Council**



**Public Roundtable on**

**PR24-0766, the “Food Policy Council Karyn Bigelow Confirmation Resolution  
of 2022”**

**Testimony of**

**Karyn Bigelow**

**Before the  
Committee on Transportation and the Environment  
Council of the District of Columbia  
The Honorable Mary M. Cheh, Chairperson**

July 13, 2022

10:00 am

Virtual Meeting Platform  
The John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Good morning Councilmember Cheh and staff. Thank you for holding this hearing and thank you to Mayor Bowser for my nomination to the Food Policy Council. My name is Karyn Bigelow and as a native Washingtonian, I am honored for the opportunity to serve on the DC Food Policy Council. For years, I have done advocacy at the federal level. I welcome the opportunity to use my skills and talent to improve the city that I grew up in, where I reside, and that I love.

Since 2016, I have worked on federal policy related to domestic and global food security. Over the past few years, I have focused my work on the intersections of food security, sustainability, and climate change. I was pursuing a career to work on food security in general. However, I read the 2017 Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report that said that climate change threatens to put over 100 million people back into extreme poverty and subsequently hunger. Since 1990, the world has been able to cut world hunger in half, but climate change threatens to undo decades of great work. This is true in a global context, but if we are not proactive, this can be true in the United States, as well. I was shocked and baffled about why more people were not discussing this problem. After that, I changed the focus in my work and research to include climate change and sustainability, because I know that hunger and malnutrition cannot be eradicated without addressing climate change and how our food supply chains and food systems work.

Currently, I am a Co-Executive Director at Creation Justice Ministries, where our mission is to protect, restore, and rightfully share God's creation. I have been in this role since June 2021. Before my time at Creation Justice Ministries, I worked at Bread for the World in various roles. My last position at the organization was as a policy analyst, where I led the organization's portfolio and working group on climate change and food security. I am also currently pursuing a Master of Science in Global Food Security and Nutrition from the University of Edinburgh. I am focusing my studies on food security and sustainability and biodiversity issues. I have a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and a B.A. in Social Relations and Policy from Michigan State University.

I am also a local beekeeper in DC and a member of the DC Beekeepers Association. My interest in beekeeping happened on a whim, but it has been a rewarding experience that I never imagined. Beekeeping has brought so much of my work to life and it is enriching, as beekeeping is both an act of food production and stewardship for the local environment. I plan to bring this perspective to the DC Food Policy Council as we work to make the District more sustainable in the food supply chain.

If confirmed to the DC Food Policy Council, I hope to work on and support multiple endeavors. Given my experience around food security and climate change, I believe I could bring the most value to the Sustainable Supply Chain committee. I am excited to support the

2022 goals and beyond:

- To convene farmers markets and expand to more locations, particularly in wards 5, 7, and 8.
- To track the implementation of DC laws pertaining to food and climate.
- To support the implementation of the Green Food Purchasing Act.
- To support DC's commitments under the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration.

I also hope to use my divinity background to support future initiatives of the DC Food Policy Council to work with Black churches in the city. Churches are hubs of social capital, including skills and resources, that can help further sustainability in the city and decrease hunger in the city. Currently, at Creation Justice Ministries, I am working to engage with the heads of the major historically Black denominations. My hope is that this project in my professional work can also support the development and networking with local Black churches, as well.

Thank you for allowing me to speak today. I welcome the opportunity to serve my home city as we continue to make strides in DC to reduce hunger and build a resilient food system. I also welcome any questions you may have.

**Executive Committee:**

Patrick Burke, Chairman  
Washington DC Police Foundation  
Christopher Hennigh, Vice Chairman  
America, Retired Captain Arlington County Police Dept.  
Linda Watkins, Secretary  
Irene Torres, Center  
James C. Fell, Treasurer  
NOEL of the University of Chicago  
Gary Cohen, Immediate Past Chairman  
Glory Days Grill

**Directors:**

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Alcohol Industries Associates  
Tony Cochran  
Glory Days Grill  
Officer Jayne Derbyshire  
Montgomery County Department of Police  
Tara Gibbons  
Captain Alan Hanson  
Frisco County Police Department  
Rise Hines  
Proced. Weiss & Hines PC  
Chad David Hochler  
Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Police  
Carol Hubner  
Dabbie Jennings  
Chesapeake Region Safety Council  
Christopher Kanschak  
Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility  
Bernie Lucas  
@ReedMedia  
John Mauldin  
Transportation Safety Associates  
John O'Donnell  
Washington Area New Automobile Dealer Association  
Hudson Parker  
National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking  
Melania Reisman  
George Washington University Hospital  
Melissa Shear  
Office of the Attorney General of the District of Columbia  
Sergeant Terry Thorne  
Metropolitan Police Department (D.C.)  
Elizabeth Tobin  
John Underland  
Underland Management  
Fred Valentino  
Deputy Chief Wayne Vincent  
Arlington County Police Department  
Luke Werchbroad  
Pony J. Weisbord Unfinished Business  
Lissa Weir  
DCR Marketing Communications  
Bill Young  
Fox Institute  
Mike Young  
KHFO

**Members:**

Regina Ali  
AAA Mid-Atlantic  
Lori Anderson  
Brandy Audahl  
Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility  
Steven Burns  
Enterprise Holdings  
Nick Champagne  
One Connect  
J. J. Current  
DeWitt Washington Hospital Center  
Colonel Maggie DeBoard  
Chief, Sean of Herndon Police Department  
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Prince George's County Public Schools Office of Health Education  
Elizabeth Embleymane  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
Russell Fennelly  
Retired Captain, United States Park Police  
Andrew Feis  
Administrative Office of U.S. Courts  
James Frank  
WHSA, Richard  
Douglas Gensler  
Cobleskill, Wickham and Teit, LLP  
Tom Garrison  
Alban Cours  
Chief Mary Gavin  
Tells Church Police Department  
Jeannine Givannon  
General Motors Public Policy Office  
Michael Green  
Redauck Howard  
NSDD Mid-Atlantic  
Alexa Kaufman  
AT&T  
Leah Kelly  
Brown-Fryman  
Jill Kiefer  
JEAN Lindner  
Captain J. P. H. Koushel  
Virginia State Police  
Robert Krebs  
Ricky Landon  
Jeffrey Levy  
Lieutenant Jeffrey Lockhart  
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office  
Mally Matroneas, MA, LPC  
Safe Night LLC  
Many McAndrew  
Alcoholic Beverage Corp., Inc.  
Lieutenant Jason North  
Alexandria Police Department  
Lieutenant Shawn Peak  
Prince William County Police Department  
Jeanne Reed  
Hessan Roosevelt High School SADD Club  
James Ryan  
Crestalton Boards  
Jerry Sachs  
Beary Sifer  
Policy Solutions LLC  
Jon Scherzmann  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
Sandy Spivono  
Family, Center and Community Leaders of America, Inc.  
Julie Spivono  
Restaurant Associates Metropolitan Washington  
Christopher Taveland  
Capital Outlook  
Dr. Samartha Talwar, NRCC TC  
District of Columbia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner  
T. William Tower, II  
Maryland State Police, Retired  
Kim Toist  
Consultation Brands  
Chris Vendectro  
Glory Days Grill  
Elizabeth Voimette  
SAND



WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM

7700 Leesburg Pike, Suite 249 ■ Falls Church, VA 22043 ■ TEL 703.893.0461 ■ FAX 703.893.0465 ■ www.wrap.org ■ Email: wrap@wrap.org

July 26, 2022

Members of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Re.: B24-837 – “Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022”

Dear Councilmembers:

On behalf of the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program’s (WRAP) Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and the more than 700,000 District of Columbia residents we serve in the fight against drunk driving and underage drinking, I wanted to formally communicate to you WRAP’s unequivocal support for B24-837 – “Ignition Interlock Program Amendment Act of 2022” (introduced by Council Chairman Phil Mendelson at the request of District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser).

Succinctly, B24-837 seeks to expand the universe of persons subject to the District’s Ignition Interlock System Program to include city residents convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol on U.S. military bases or in a foreign country.

With ignition interlock devices reducing “repeat offenses for driving while intoxicated by about 70-percent” (U.S. Centers for Disease Control) and that interlocks are proven to be “highly effective in allowing a vehicle to be started by sober drivers but not by alcohol-impaired drivers” (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration), B24-837 looks to simply ensure public safety by subjecting a greater proportion of applicable DUI offenders to the District’s interlock program.

NHTSA data (“Countermeasures That Work,” 2020) shows that “interlocks typically are used as a condition of probation for DWI offenders, to prevent them from driving while impaired by alcohol after their driver’s licenses have been reinstated.” The need for such in the District of Columbia is all too clear as 2020 NHTSA data shows that more than a quarter (29%) of the city’s traffic fatalities that year involved drunk drivers.

(continued)

A coalition of diverse interests using effective education, innovative programs and targeted advocacy to end alcohol-impaired driving and underage drinking in the Washington, DC metro area.

A copy of WRAP’s annual financial statement is available by calling (703) 893-0461, Suite 249, Falls Church, VA 22043 or by calling (703) 893-0461. Documents and information submitted under the District of Columbia’s Freedom of Information Act are also available on the Internet at [www.wrap.org](http://www.wrap.org) and [www.dcofficials.org](http://www.dcofficials.org).

Kurt Erickson  
WRAP President & CEO

As a means of preventing future and repeat drunk driving, the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program strongly supports B24-837. To that end, we also thank you, in advance, for your consideration of favorably reporting this potentially lifesaving legislation.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. I may be directly reached with any questions at either 703-893-0461 or at [kurt@wrap.org](mailto:kurt@wrap.org).

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt Erickson". The signature is stylized with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Kurt Erickson  
President



# ATTACHMENT C

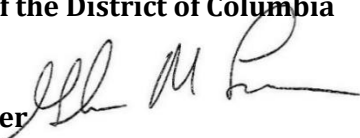
Government of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



**Glen Lee**  
Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Glen Lee  
Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** March 27, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement - Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle  
Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023

**REFERENCE:** Bill 25-138, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue  
Analysis on March 15, 2023

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill authorizes the Mayor to design and make available for issuance one or more Washington Wizards motor vehicle tags that demonstrate support for the National Basketball Association's Washington Wizards. Residents must pay a \$25 application fee and a \$20 annual display fee for a Washington Wizards tag. The Mayor should deposit any application and display fees received from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for the issuance of a Washington Wizards tag into the District's General Fund.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The Mayor will design and offer for issuance a Washington Wizards tag and can absorb any costs within her existing budgeted resources. The Mayor must work with the Wizards organization to obtain the necessary permissions to use any Wizards trademarked logos or other images.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 25-138, "Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act of 2023," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on March 15, 2023

There are over 280,000 active vehicle tags registered in the District and less than five percent register their vehicles with a specialty or membership organization tag. The number of residents who are willing to pay additional fees and register their vehicles with a Washington Wizards tag is unknown. DMV will deposit any application and display fees for residents who choose a Washington Wizards tag into the District's General Fund.

# ATTACHMENT D



**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**

Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 724-8026

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Councilmember Charles Allen**

**FROM: Nicole L. Streeter, General Counsel *NLS***

**DATE: March 15, 2023**

**RE: Legal sufficiency determination for Bill 25-138, the  
Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification  
Tags Amendment Act of 2023**

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The measure is legally and technically sufficient for Council consideration.

The bill would amend the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937 to authorize the Mayor to design and issue one or more Washington Wizards motor vehicle identification tags to demonstrate support for the Washington Wizards basketball team.

I am available if you have any questions.

# ATTACHMENT E

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
**COMPARATIVE PRINT**

B25-138

March 28, 2023

§ 50–1501.03. Fees classified and use of proceeds designated.

[...]

**(B)** Any person ordering a tag with special markings unique to that person shall pay a one-time application fee of \$100, and may obtain a replacement if a tag is lost or stolen upon payment of a fee of \$25 per tag.

**(C)** Any person displaying a tag already approved for use by a member of an organization other than Disabled American Veterans shall pay a one-time application fee of \$100, and may obtain a replacement if a tag is lost or stolen upon payment of a \$25 fee per tag.

**(D)** Any person ordering Anacostia River Commemorative License Plates shall pay the fees as set forth in § 8-102.07(b).

**(E)** Any person ordering veterans identification tags pursuant to § 50-1501.02a shall pay the fees as set forth in § 50-1501.02a(b)(2).

**(F)** Any person ordering a women veterans identification tags pursuant to § 50-1501.02b shall pay the fees as set forth in § 50-1501.02b(b)(1).

**(G)** Any person ordering bicycle awareness identification tags shall pay the fees as set forth in § 50-1501.02c(b)(1).

**(H)** Any person ordering a "We Demand Statehood" identification tag designed and made available pursuant to § 50-1501.02d(a) shall pay the fees established pursuant to § 50-1501.02d(b)(1).

**(I)** Any person ordering an arts and humanities motor-vehicle identification tag issued pursuant to § 50-1501.02e(a) shall pay the fees established pursuant to § 50-1501.02e(b).

**(J)** Any person ordering a breast cancer awareness identification tag shall pay the fees as set forth in § 50-1501.02f(b)(1).

**(K)** Any person ordering a parks and recreation identification tag shall pay the fees as set forth in § 50-1501.02g(b)(1).

**(L)** Any person ordering a Washington Capitals identification tag shall pay the fees as set forth in § 50-1501.02h(b)(1).

**(M)** Any person ordering a Washington Mystics identification tag shall pay the fees set forth in § 50-1501.02i(b)(1).

**(N)** Any person ordering a Washington Nationals identification tag shall pay the fees set forth in § 50-1501.02j(b)(1).

**(O)** Any person ordering an End Gun Violence identification tag shall pay the fees set forth in § 50-1501.02k(b)(1).

**(P)** Any person ordering a Protect Local Wildlife identification tag shall pay the fees set forth in § 50-1501.02l(b)(1).

**(Q) Any person ordering a Washington Wizards identification tag shall pay the fees set forth in section 2m(b)(1) of this act.**

[...]

**(d)** The proceeds from fees payable under this chapter shall be paid into the General Fund of the District of Columbia as established by the Revenue Funds Availability Act of 1975, effective January 22, 1976 (D.C. Law 1-42; 22 DCR 6318); provided, that:

**(1)** The fees collected under subsection (b-1) of this section shall be paid into the Out-of-State Vehicle Registration Special Fund established by § 50-1501.03a;

**(2)** The fees collected for Anacostia River Commemorative License Plates shall be deposited in the Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Fund established by § 8-102.05(a);

**(3)** The fees collected for veterans' motor vehicle identification tags under § 50-1501.02a shall be deposited in the Office of Veterans Affairs Fund established by § 49-1004;

**(4)** The fees collected for women veteran identification tags shall be deposited in the Office of Veterans Affairs Fund, established by § 49-1004;

**(5)** The fees collected for bicycle awareness identification tags shall be deposited in the Vision Zero Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Fund, established by § 50-921.20;

**(6)** The fees collected for "We Demand Statehood" identification tags shall be deposited in the New Columbia Statehood Fund, established by § 1-129.32;

**(7)** The fees collected for arts and humanities motor-vehicle identification tags shall be deposited into the Arts and Humanities Enterprise Fund, established by § 39-205.01;

**(8)** The fees collected for breast cancer awareness identification tags under § 50-1501.02f shall be deposited in the Community Health Care Financing Fund, established by § 7-1931;



(9) The fees collected for parks and recreation identification tags under § 50-1501.02g shall be deposited into the Recreation Enterprise Fund, established by § 10-303;

(10) The fees collected for the Washington Capitals identification tags under § 50-1501.02h shall be deposited into the General Fund of the District of Columbia;

(11) The fees collected for the Washington Mystics identification tags under § 50-1501.02i shall be deposited into the General Fund of the District of Columbia;

(12) The fees collected for the Washington Nationals identification tags under § 50-1501.02j shall be deposited into the General Fund of the District of Columbia;

(13) The fees collected for the End Gun Violence identification tags under § 50-1501.02k shall be deposited in the Neighborhood Safety and Engagement Fund, established by § 7-2413; ~~and~~

(14) The fees collected for the Protect Local Wildlife identification tags under § 8-102.05; ~~and-~~

(15) The fees collected for the Washington Wizard identification tags under section 2m of this act shall be deposited into the General Fund of the District of Columbia.

[...]

# ATTACHMENT F

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
2 COMMITTEE PRINT  
3 B25-138  
4 March 28, 2023  
5  
6

7 A BILL  
8  
9

10 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
11  
12

13 To amend the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937 to authorize the Mayor to design and  
14 issue motor vehicle identification tags with a design, identifying words, or emblem that  
15 demonstrates support for the Washington Wizards basketball team, and to make  
16 conforming amendments.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
18 act may be cited as the “Washington Wizards Motor Vehicle Identification Tags Amendment Act  
19 of 2023”.

20 Sec. 2. Title IV of the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937, approved August 17,  
21 1937 (50 Stat. 679; D.C. Official Code § 50-1501.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

22 (a) A new section 2m is added to read as follows:

23 “Sec. 2m. Issuance of Washington Wizards motor vehicle identification tags.

24 “(a) The Mayor may design and make available for issue one or more Washington  
25 Wizards motor vehicle identification tags to demonstrate support for the Washington Wizards  
26 basketball team.

27 “(b)(1) A resident ordering a Washington Wizards tag shall pay a one-time application fee  
28 and a display fee each year thereafter. The application fee shall be \$25, and the display fee shall  
29 be \$20, or such other amounts as the Mayor may establish by rule.

30 “(2) The application and annual display fees shall be deposited into the General  
31 Fund of the District of Columbia.”

32 (b) Section 3 (D.C. Official Code § 50-1501.03) is amended as follows:

33 (1) Subsection (a)(1) is amended by adding a new subparagraph (Q) to read as  
34 follows:

35 “(Q) Any person ordering a Washington Wizards identification tag shall  
36 pay the fees set forth in section 2m(b)(1).”.

37 (2) Subsection (d) is amended as follows:

38 (A) Paragraph (13) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and inserting  
39 a semicolon in its place.

40 (B) Paragraph (14) is amended by striking the period and inserting the  
41 phrase “; and” in its place.

42 (C) A new paragraph (15) is added to read as follows:

43 “(15) The fees collected for the Washington Wizard identification tags under  
44 section 2m shall be deposited into the General Fund of the District of Columbia.”.

45 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

46 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
47 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,  
48 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

49 Sec. 4. Effective date.

50 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
51 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as  
52 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
53 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of  
54 Columbia Register.