COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMITTEE ON HEALTH MEMORANDUM

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

FROM: Councilmember Christina Henderson

RE: Request to Agendize Measures for the October 3, 2023 Legislative Meeting

DATE: September 28, 2023

Pursuant to Council Rule 426, regarding a waiver of Rule 231(c), I request that the following measures be agendized for the October 3, 2023 Legislative Meeting. I also request a waiver of Committee of the Whole Rule 403(b) so that these measures be agendized for an Additional Meeting of the Committee of the Whole should one be scheduled. These measures were passed by the Committee on September 26, 2023 and timely filed with the Secretary on September 27, 2023.

• B25-0124 - Prior Authorization Reform Amendment Act of 2023

B25-124 would establish safeguards for enrollees in health benefit plans that use prior authorization requirements as a means of managing health care utilization. In recent years, health insurers have adopted a practice requiring prior authorization which requires enrollees and their medical providers to seek approval for certain medications, medical procedures, or other medical care before it is provided. If the enrollee does not receive prior authorization for the procedure, the health insurer may not pay for that service. The bill was reintroduced in Council Period 25 on February 7, 2023 by Councilmembers Pinto, Allen, Bonds, R. White, T. White, Henderson, Lewis George, and Gray, and co-sponsored by Councilmember Parker.

• B25-0073 - Ambulatory Surgical Facility Amendment Act of 2023

B25-0073 updates District law pertaining to ambulatory surgical facilities (ASFs), which are entities that provide outpatient surgical procedures outside of a hospital setting. Specifically, the bill adds several definitions (e.g., operating room, ambulatory surgery) applicable to ASFs and removes the requirement that regulations list all procedures that can be performed only in ASFs, if not performed at a hospital or maternity center. This requirement has held up the promulgation of final regulations for ASFs since 1985, leaving health care providers with uncertainty about the requirements for such facilities. Bill 25-0073 was introduced by Chairman Phil Mendelson on behalf of the Mayor on January 27, 2023.

B25-312 - Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023

Bill 25-0312 aims to address the high number of vacancies within the Health Professional Licensing Boards by permitting up to 50% of professional members on Boards to be non-residents, so long as they are licensed and actively practicing in-person in the District for at least 20 hours/week. Consumer members and Chairs of the Boards would still have to be District residents. B25-0312 was introduced by Councilmembers Henderson and Parker on June 2, 2023.

Pursuant to Council Rule 314, I also request that the following measures be agendized for the October 3, 2023 Legislative Meeting. These measures were passed by the Committee on September 26, 2023 and timely filed with the Secretary on September 27, 2023.

- PR25-0291 Board of Physical Therapy Rayan Hagona-Wordie Confirmation Resolution of 2023
- PR25-0292 Board of Physical Therapy Nicholas Caylor Confirmation Resolution of 2023
- PR25-0293 Board of Physical Therapy Ana Quiñones Confirmation Resolution of 2023
- PR25-0305 Board of Occupational Therapy Charles Bond Confirmation Resolution of 2023
- PR25-0315 Board of Medicine Dr. Carolyn Gorman Confirmation Resolution of 2023
- PR25-0314 Board of Medicine Daanish Jones Confirmation Resolution of 2023
- PR25-0316 Board of Medicine Dr. Padmaja Pavuluri Confirmation Resolution of 2023

Please contact Ona Balkus, Committee Director, <u>obalkus@dccouncil.gov</u>, with any questions.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia
Office of the Budget Director
Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Secretary
Mayor's Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs