

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004**

**COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTINA HENDERSON, CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

AND

**COUNCILMEMBER ROBERT C. WHITE, JR., CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

ANNOUNCES A JOINT PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE

ON

Health and Human Services Benefits Enrollment and the DC Access System

ON

Thursday November 30, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Hybrid in Room 500 and Virtual via Zoom

To Watch Live:

<https://dccouncil.gov/council-videos/>
<https://www.christinahendersondc.com/live>
<https://www.youtube.com/@cmchenderson>

Councilmember Christina Henderson, Chair of the Committee on Health, and Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr., Chair of the Committee on Housing, announce a joint oversight roundtable on Health and Human Services Benefits Enrollment and the DC Access System (DCAS). The roundtable will be held on Thursday November 30, 2023, at 9:30a.m.

The purpose of this roundtable is to address the challenges District residents have faced when enrolling in health and social services benefits through DCAS. DCAS, also known as District Direct, is a web-based application that is intended to allow District residents to apply for certain public benefits available in the District. The goal of DCAS is to streamline the application and recertification processes by linking a central system to various data sources to eliminate repeated

data entry through forms and applications. After more than a decade of implementation, concerns with the performance of the software remain.

DCAS is managed and funded under the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), and benefit determinations based on the information submitted through DCAS are made by the Department of Human Services (DHS) Economic Security Administration (ESA). This joint oversight roundtable is intended to bring those agencies together to discuss the entire benefits enrollment processes to identify opportunities for improvement. Topics for discussion will include the current state of the DCAS technology, staffing for processing applications, processing times for benefits applications, the administrative burden for residents applying for benefits, interoperability of systems and databases, plans for the future of DCAS, interactions between DHCF and DHS for determining benefits, and plans for improving processing timelines for health and social services benefits.

Witnesses will be appearing virtually using the Zoom platform. Public witnesses will have 5 minutes to speak if they are representing an organization, and 3 minutes if they are speaking for themselves. The public should sign up at <https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Hearings> by 5pm on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Witnesses who anticipate needing spoken language interpretation, or require sign language interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee office of the need as soon as possible but no later than five business days before the proceeding. We will make every effort to fulfill timely requests, although alternatives may be offered. Requests received in less than five business days may not be fulfilled. If you have additional questions, please email Ashley Strange, Legislative Assistant at astrange@dccouncil.gov.

Testimony should be submitted through the Council's Hearing Management System <https://lims.dccouncil.gov/hearings> in advance of the hearing. Testimony will be publicly accessible upon Committee review. If you are unable to testify at the hearing, written statements are encouraged and will be made a part of the official record. Statements for the record should be submitted through the Hearing Management System or left by voicemail by calling (202) 430-6046. The record will close at 5:00pm on Thursday, December 14, 2023.