

**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 April 2, 2024 Legislative Meeting
DATE: March 28, 2024

Pursuant to Council Rule 426, regarding a waiver of Rule 231(c), I request that the following measure be agendized for the April 2, 2024 Legislative Meeting. I also request a waiver of Committee of the Whole Rule 403(b) so that this measure be agendized for an Additional Meeting of the Committee of the Whole should one be scheduled. This measure was passed by the Committee on March 21, 2024 and timely filed with the Secretary on March 26, 2024.

Bill 25-0545, the Health Occupations Revision General Amendment Act of 2024

Bill 25-0545 was introduced by Chairman Phil Mendelson on behalf of the Mayor on October 20, 2023. This bill amends the Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985 by amending many portions of the existing law related to licensure, scopes of work, and Licensing Boards for a wide array of health professions in the District. This is the first general amendment to the 1985 statute since 2009, and seeks to make much needed updates to modernize our healthcare system, align with current professional standards and environments, and streamline administrative processes. This legislation will (1) create the first-ever general guidelines for telehealth services provided by licensed health professionals in the District, thereby encouraging consistent and high-quality telehealth services; (2) Increase transparency, patient safety, and administrative efficiency with several key updates to scopes of practice, licensure, and registration; and (3) Expand representation, increase professional collaboration and efficiency, and address high levels vacancies on Boards by reorganizing the Health Professional Licensing Boards.

Pursuant to Council Rule 314, I also request that the following measures be agendized for the April 2, 2024 Legislative Meeting. These measures were passed by the Committee on March 21, 2024 and timely filed with the Secretary on March 26, 2024.

- PR25-0633 - Board of Veterinary Medicine Blair Zervos Confirmation Resolution of 2024**
 - PR25-0640 - Board of Psychology Dr. Patrick Canavan Confirmation Resolution of 2024**
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At the request of the Mayor, I request that the following measures be agendized for the April 2, 2024 Legislative Meeting. The Executive will file these measures no later than tomorrow, Friday, March 29.

- **The “DC Health Care Alliance Enrollment Rulemaking Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2024”**
- **The “DC Health Care Alliance Enrollment Rulemaking Emergency Approval Act of 2024”**
 - This legislation will approve proposed final rules of the Department of Health Care Finance to implement a 12-month certification period for the DC Health Care Alliance ("Alliance") program and require renewals to occur every 12 months. This change will remove barriers to Alliance beneficiaries in maintaining health care coverage and create greater parity with Medicaid eligibility requirements and processes by increasing the time periods for certification and renewals from 6-month to 12-month periods.
 - For ease of reference, the Notice of Final Regulations is attached.
- **The “DC Health Care Alliance Financial Eligibility Rulemaking Approval Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2024”**
- **The “DC Health Care Alliance Financial Eligibility Rulemaking Emergency Approval Act of 2024”**
 - This legislation will approve proposed final rules of the Department of Health Care Finance regarding the operation of the DC Healthcare Alliance program that will update the modified adjusted gross income financial methodology and increase the reasonable compatibility standard for verifying electronic data sources when an individual attests to their financial information. These changes will provide more room for errors that may be no fault of applicants or beneficiaries, and create a more streamlined and efficient automation of application and renewal processing that will reduce the risk of eligible Alliance beneficiaries losing health coverage.
 - For ease of reference, the Notice of Final Regulations is attached.

Please contact Ona Balkus, Committee Director, obalkus@dccouncil.gov, 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