

# COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

ROBERT C. WHITE, JR., CHAIR  
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
**FROM:** Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.   
Chair, Committee on Housing  
**DATE:** October 9, 2024  
**RE:** Requests for October 15 Legislative Meeting

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I request a waiver of Rule 231(c), and that the following measures appear on the agenda for the additional legislative meeting of the Council on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Permanent bill

- **Bill 25-49, the Local Rent Supplement Program Eligibility Amendment Act of 2024**

This is a permanent version of legislation that has been in effect on an emergency or temporary basis since July 2022. It lowers barriers to participation in our locally funded housing voucher program, the Local Rent Supplement Program (LRSP), compared to an analogous federal program, the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program.

Thanks to this legislation, people with a wider range of criminal legal backgrounds, immigration statuses, and access to official documents can access lifesaving housing vouchers. Local voucher access is a critical part of the District's housing first strategy to end homelessness.

The committee print contains several changes intended to address administrability and public safety concerns that arose at the Committee on Housing's hearing on Bill 25-49 and in the months since. As explained in greater detail in the attached committee report, the print would allow the DC Housing Authority to respond to ongoing, unsafe criminal conduct; to verify additional details of a voucher application using external documentation; and to require identification from participants after they have cleared the initial eligibility process. The committee print also includes new guardrails on each of these permissions to ensure that recently homeless residents and other extremely low-income residents continue to benefit from necessary housing assistance.

### Resolutions at the request of the Mayor

- **Proposed Resolution 25-822, the Rental Housing Commission Toya Carmichael Confirmation Resolution of 2024**

This resolution would confirm Toya Carmichael's reappointment as an Administrative Law Judge of the Rental Housing Commission (RHC). The RHC hears and decides administrative appeals from the Office of Administrative Hearings in rent stabilization disputes and other issues governed by the Rental Housing Act. The RHC's judges must be attorneys in good standing with the DC Bar and must not be landlords or tenants. Judge Carmichael satisfies these requirements and the Committee recommends reappointment.

- **Proposed Resolution 25-914, the Real Estate Commission Ericka Black Confirmation Resolution of 2024**

This resolution would confirm Ericka Black's reappointment as a member of the Real Estate Commission (REC). The REC governs the District's licensed real estate professionals. District law requires that the nine-member REC include people meeting certain qualifications. The Mayor has nominated Black to one of two REC seats reserved for licensed real estate salespeople. Based on the information provided to the Committee on Housing in the Mayor's nominating package and gathered at a roundtable, the Committee recommends confirmation.

- **Proposed Resolution 25-915, the Real Estate Commission Edward Downs Confirmation Resolution of 2024**

This resolution would confirm Edward Downs' reappointment as a member of the REC. The Mayor has nominated Downs to one of three REC seats reserved for licensed real estate brokers. Based on the information provided to the Committee on Housing in the Mayor's nominating package and gathered at a roundtable, the Committee recommends confirmation.