

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B
GLOVER PARK AND CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS



November 30, 2016

The Honorable Anita Bonds
Chairman, Committee on Housing and Community Development
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Suite 110
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Councilmember Bonds:

ANC3B has been participating in the discussions with you and your staff about the ANC Omnibus Bill B21-0697 since the beginning of the process, and we provided comments at several points. We are now very concerned that the current version of the bill, which was presented and approved by the Council at its legislative session on November 15, has evolved into a proposal that no longer reflects the initial goals and objectives we sought and supported.

The original bill aimed to clarify and strengthen the provisions on notice requirements and "great weight," which are the two most important levers for guaranteeing ANCs access to represent the interests of residents in specific District proposals and actions. Yet the current bill does nothing to strengthen those provisions, and may, in fact, weaken them.

In addition, there has been almost no time or opportunity to review and assess the effects of the changes that are now part of the legislation. We believe the revised language merits closer scrutiny as well as opportunities for comment. And if any further changes are offered over the coming week, there will be little time or opportunity to review those changes.

We understand that the amended bill is currently on the consent agenda for the Council's legislative session on December 6, and there is only one other legislative session remaining this year, on December 20. **On behalf of ANC3B, I am asking you, as Committee Chair, to remove this bill from consideration for the remainder of this year.** We are also requesting a hearing before the Council takes up the matter again so that ANCs from all across the District can comment on the legislation.

Sincerely,

Jackie Blumenthal
Chairman, ANC3B

cc. The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairman
The Honorable Mary Choh (Ward 3)
The Honorable David Grosso (At Large)
The Honorable Elisa Silverman (At Large)
The Honorable Robert White, Jr. (At Large)

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This letter was approved by the Commission by a vote of 5-0 at the Commission's duly noticed public meeting on December 8, 2016, at which a quorum was present. (A quorum is 3 of the 5 members.)