

**RESOLUTION OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B (ANC3B)
CALLING ON THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TO ENACT COMPREHENSIVE RENT CONTROL REFORM LEGISLATION**

WHEREAS, a substantial majority of housing units in the District of Columbia are rental units (58% according to 2010 census); and

WHEREAS, since the advent of home rule in 1974, rental housing in the District of Columbia has been subject to rent control laws enacted by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has extended and modified the District of Columbia's rent control laws on about eight occasions since 1974 but has never undertaken a comprehensive review of them; and


WHEREAS, a comprehensive review and revision of the District of Columbia's rent control laws is long overdue and is necessary to ensure the availability of affordable rental housing in the District of Columbia for low and moderate income residents; and

WHEREAS, deficiencies in existing law, including lax and ineffective enforcement rules, provisions permitting large automatic rent increases well in excess of inflation, and major loopholes, have undermined and effectively removed the protections of the District of Columbia's rent control laws for the vast majority of renters; and

WHEREAS, entities such as the DC Fiscal Policy Institute have documented the excessive increase in the cost of rental housing in relation to inflation and the decrease in affordable housing options in the District of Columbia;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B (ANC3B), THAT:

1. The City Council of the District of Columbia should act promptly to enact comprehensive rent control reform legislation that will improve the availability of affordable rental housing in the District of Columbia for low and moderate-income residents; and
2. Key components of comprehensive rent control reform legislation for the District of Columbia should include measures to improve enforcement of the rent control laws, close loopholes in the rent control laws, improve tenant rights and housing conditions, and eliminate excessive rent increases.

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APPROVED this 12th day of April 2012, with Commissioners Krietzman, Blumenthal and Fulwood

voting aye,
and
Commissioners Cohen and Thielens
voting nay.

Brian A. Cohen, Chairmen, ANC3B