



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

February 14, 2022

Councilmember Elissa Silverman
Chair, Committee on Labor and Workforce Development
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 402
Washington, DC 20004
esilverman@dccouncil.us

RE: DC Council’s Performance Oversight of the Department of Employment Services

Dear Councilmember Silverman,

At its regular meeting on January 19, 2022, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With eight of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (8-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Patel and seconded by Commissioner Friend, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2022 a lawsuit has been filed against the Department of Employment Services (DOES) by the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia on behalf on claimants due to lack of proper communication and documentation with regards to benefits,

WHEREAS, DOES has made 10,000 claimants wait an average of sixty days before paying out benefits,

WHEREAS, the DC Council’s performance oversight of DOES in 2021 triggered an audit by the Office of the Inspector General due to the numerous complaints before the DC Council,

WHEREAS, these challenges, along with the long-delayed modernization of the DOES portal, exacerbate anxiety among workers who are unable to access benefit payments and are unable to pay time-sensitive bills, and

WHEREAS, DOES has been targeted and hundreds of claimants had their payments stolen with little to no guidance from DOES and no sense of urgency to remedy the issue.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Council to introduce legislative remedies to support impacted claimants and to address the above pervasive issues plaguing DOES.



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Commissioners Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) and Jeri Epstein (2A06@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Jeri Epstein
Chairperson