

May 5, 2023

Councilmember Anita Bonds Chair, Committee on Executive Administration and Labor Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 404 Washington, DC 20004 abonds@dccouncil.gov

RE: DC Council's Budget Oversight Hearing for the Department of Employment Services (DOES)

Dear Councilmember Bonds,

At its regular meeting on April 19, 2023, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of nine commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (7-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Omictin and seconded by Commissioner Patel, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2023, ANC 2A voted 7-0-0 to adopt a resolution regarding the DC Council's performance oversight of the Department of Employment Services (DOES),

WHEREAS, the modernization of DOES' IT system has not been executed properly, leading to:

- a severe data breach leading to fraud, which must be remedied immediately,
- glitches preventing claimants from getting direly needed funding to survive,

WHEREAS, DOES will need to prioritize funding to address:

- wage transparency for tipped workers,
- implementation of anti-wage theft laws,
- public education regarding the tipped minimum wage increase timeline,
- backlog of 44,000 outstanding unemployment claims,
- proper staffing of the Bureau of Economic Stability and Benefits,

WHEREAS, DOES is the agency that is the main resource for workers in remedying wage theft.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A recommends that the DC Council does not reduce the number of staff for DOES.



Commissioners Trupti Patel (<u>2A03@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Jim Malec (<u>2A02@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Jim Malec

Jim Malec Vice Chairperson