

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

October 14, 2013

Errol R. Arthur, Chair Board of Elections & Ethics Government of the District of Columbia One Judiciary Square 441 4th Street NW Suite 250 North Washington, DC 20001 director@dcboee.org

RE: 2013 Precinct Boundary Efficiency Plan

Dear Chairman Arthur,

At its regular meeting on October 9, 2013, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the proposed 2013 Boundary Efficiency Plan and decided to comment before the end of this initial comment period. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-1):

Resolution on the October 4, 2013, Board of Elections Draft Proposal "2013 Precinct Boundary Efficiency Plan"

Whereas, the purpose of changes in DC Elections laws should be to help maintain fair and honest elections, and make it easier, more convenient, and less confusing for citizens to cast their ballots, and

Whereas, a proposal to change precinct boundaries to conform with ANC boundaries would force some voters to walk greater distances and even pass by their current precincts to cast ballots at new precincts, and many of our constituents would be among those adversely affected, and

Whereas, this proposal would also result in thousands of voters having their precincts changed only a few months in advance of DC's Mayoral Primary in April risking additional confusion, and

Whereas, making polling stations less convenient and changing them unnecessarily would undoubtedly result in suppressing the total vote count, Be it resolved that Dupont Circle ANC 2B opposes any change in DC Elections laws that would result in ANY voters being assigned to new precincts that are of appreciably greater distance and less convenient than their current precincts, and

Be it further resolved that Dupont Circle ANC 2B opposes any change in DC Elections laws that would result in confusion among voters about where to vote in the upcoming April Primary election, and

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B believes that voters should have the right to vote at the precinct nearest their home – whenever possible – and that voting precincts should not be changed within six months of a city-wide Mayoral or Council election unless absolutely necessary.

Be it further resolved that ANC2B resolves to work with DCBOEE to help identify new polling locations.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein (mike.silverstein@dupontcircleanc.net), Will Stephens (will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net), and Mike Feldstein (mike.feldstein@dupontcircleanc.net) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

Sincerely,

Will Stephens Chairman

cc:jevans@dccouncil.us

William J. Hephens

gottlieb.simon@dc.gov