



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

December 10, 2019

Councilmember Brandon Todd
Chair, Committee on Government Operations
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 105
Washington, DC 20004
btodd@dccouncil.us

RE: Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Establishment

Dear Councilmember Todd:

At its regular meeting on November 13, 2019, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (9-0-0):

WHEREAS, Washington, DC has one of the largest populations of Deaf and hard of hearing residents and is home to the only university dedicated to Deaf and hard of hearing people in the world,

WHEREAS, the Office of Disability Rights has a sole focus in providing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations such as American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters and Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) services,

WHEREAS, the Office of Disability Rights does not adequately address a wider range of cultural and disability needs including but not limited to language deprivation, workforce discrimination, emergency preparedness, educational attainment, and healthcare needs,

WHEREAS, the Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing, once established, would work to address the aforementioned issues within the District of Columbia,

WHEREAS, 35 states, including Maryland and Virginia, have already established an Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing to address these various gaps and needs, and

WHEREAS, the Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing has been endorsed by numerous groups representing different kinds of deaf people such as the DC Association of the Deaf, the National Association of the Deaf, the DC Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America, and the Association of Late Deafened Adults.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the establishment of the Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Commissioners Matthew Sampson (2B01@anc.dc.gov) and Daniel Warwick (2B02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Warwick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Warwick
Chair