



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

February 20, 2012

Council of the District of Columbia
The Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Resolution to Oppose the Prostitution Free Zone Amendment Act

Dear DC Council Members:

At its regular meeting on February 8, 2012, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) discussed the proposed Prostitution Free Zone Amendment Act. With seven of the nine Commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0):

Whereas, the Council of the District of Columbia is currently considering passage of the Prostitution Free Zone Amendment Act of 2011 (B19-567), legislation that would modify the Prostitution Free Zone Act of 2005 to allow the Metropolitan Police Department to permanently declare any public space as a “Prostitution Free Zone;”

Whereas, the proposed legislation ambiguously defines the criteria that will be used to implement the proposed “Prostitution Free Zones” and states only that, “disproportionally high arrests for prostitution or prostitution-related offenses” be used to determine when implementation is appropriate;

Whereas, the existing legislation has done little to eradicate prostitution and has succeeded in further marginalizing sex workers, low income people of color, transgender people, lesbians and gays, and the homeless;

Whereas, both the Metropolitan Police Department and the Office of the Attorney General have acknowledged that the implementation of B19-567 would likely be unconstitutional, as was found with anti-loitering laws;

Therefore, be it resolved that, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B opposes the Prostitution Free Zone Amendment Act of 2011 (B19-567) and encourages the Council of the District of Columbia to reject the proposed legislation.

Kevin O’Connor (kevin.oconnor@dupontcircleanc.net), Mike Feldstein (mike.feldstein@dupontcircleanc.net), and I, Will Stephens (will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net), are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

Thank you for taking into account our views on this important matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William F. Stephens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Will Stephens, Chair

Cc: Mayor Vincent Gray (eom@dc.gov); kbrown@dccouncil.us; dcatania@dccouncil.us; mbrown@dccouncil.us; jgraham@dccouncil.us; mcheh@dccouncil.us; yalexander@dccouncil.us; pmendelson@dccouncil.us; jackevans@dccouncil.us; mbowser@dccouncil.us; twells@dccouncil.us; mbarry@dccouncil.us; vorange@dccouncil.us