

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: November 17, 2015

SUBJECT: Report on PR 21-363, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L. Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 21-363, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L. Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Proposed Resolution 21-363, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L. Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015,” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor on October 5, 2015 and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The purpose of PR 21-363 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Michael L. Ferrell for reappointment as a member of the District’s Interagency Council on Homelessness as a representative from an organization that provides services within the Continuum of Care.

The Interagency Council on Homelessness (“ICH”) was established by the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005 “for the purpose of facilitating interagency, cabinet-level leadership in planning, policymaking, program development, provider monitoring, and budgeting for the

Continuum of Care of homeless services.”¹ In addition to agency heads from relevant District agencies, members of the ICH include representatives of organizations that provide services within the Continuum of Care, homeless or formerly homeless individuals, and advocates for the District’s homeless population, among others.² Annually, the ICH develops and publishes the District’s “Winter Plan” detailing how and where the District will provide hypothermia shelter for individuals and families.³ In March 2015, the ICH published its 5-year “strategic plan,” *Homeward DC*, which describes the District’s plan to end chronic homelessness in the District by 2020.⁴ Going forward, members will work to ensure the plan’s implementation and execution.

Mr. Ferrell is a Maryland resident and Executive Director of the Coalition for the Homeless, a District-based service provider. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where he earned a Master of General Administration in Financial Management. Mr. Ferrell also holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Howard University. For over 35 years, Mr. Ferrell has worked in the social services sector, both in the District government and with service organizations. This wealth of experience will allow Mr. Ferrell to continue to make contributions to the ICH’s important work, including implementation of the *Homeward DC* and future winter plans.

The Committee of the Whole recommends his reappointment.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

October 5, 2015	PR 21-363, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L. Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor.
October 6, 2015	PR 21-363 is “read” at the October 6, 2015 Legislative Meeting; on this date the referral of the PR to the Committee of the Whole is official and the 60-day period for Council review begins. If this measure is not acted upon by the Council before December 6, 2015, PR 21-363 will be deemed approved.
October 9, 2015	Notice of Intent to Act on PR 21-363 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .
October 23, 2015	Notice of a Public Hearing on PR 21-363 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .
November 4, 2015	The Committee of the Whole holds a roundtable on PR 21-361 through PR 21-372, which is recessed until November 10, 2015 to hear testimony on PR 21-370.

¹ D.C. Law 16-35, Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005 (eff. Oct. 22, 2005).

² See *id.*

³ See *id.*

⁴ See *Homeward DC*, available at: http://ich.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ich/page_content/attachments/ICH-StratPlan2.7-Web.pdf.

November 10, 2015 The Committee of the Whole reconvenes the public hearing on PR 21-361 through PR 21-372.

November 17, 2015 The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 21-363.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Ferrell is the Mayor's nominee for appointment as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public roundtable on PR 21-361 through PR 21-372 on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, but the roundtable was recessed due to a conflict for Ms. Margaret Hacskaylo, nominated under PR 21-370. The roundtable was reconvened on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 where testimony from Ms. Hacskaylo was received. The testimony summarized below is from both November 4th and November 10th reconvened roundtable. Copies of written testimony are attached to this report.

Christina M. Respress, Nominee, summarized her background qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Elizabeth Schroeder Stribling, Nominee, summarized her background qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

Michael L. Ferrell, Nominee, summarized his background and discussed his past experience with and commitment to ending homelessness in the District of Columbia. Mr. Ferrell highlighted his 35 years of work with various social services organizations and the District government. He discussed his leadership of a homeless service organization and contributions to the ICH's strategic plan and winter planning committees. Finally, Mr. Ferrell reiterated his commitment to the ICH's work and ending homelessness in the District.

Deborah Shore, Nominee, summarized her background qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

Adam Rocap, Nominee, summarized his background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Nechama Masliansky, Nominee, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Eric J. Sheptock, Nominee, summarized his background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Donald L. Brooks, Nominee, summarized his background and qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

Albert Townsend, Nominee, summarized his background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Margaret A. Hacksaylo, Nominee, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Margaret Riden, Nominee, summarized her background and qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

Jill Carmichael, Nominee, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Adam Maier, Housing Director, Pathways to Housing DC, testified that that each of the 12 nominees possesses knowledge and experience in the areas of homeless services policy and service delivery. Mr. Maier recommends approval of all nominees.

The Committee received no testimony or comments in opposition to PR 21-363.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Members of the Interagency Council on Homelessness are appointed pursuant to section 4 of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-751.01 *et seq.*), which established the ICH.

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

The approval of PR 21-363 will have no fiscal impact. Members are not compensated by the District government and the operations of the Interagency Council on Homelessness are funded through the office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1 States the short title of PR 21-363.

Section 2 Confirms the appointment of Michael L. Ferrell.

Section 3 Directs the Council to transmit a copy of this resolution to the nominee and the Office of the Mayor.

Section 4 Provides that PR 21-363 shall take effect immediately upon publication in the *DC Register*.

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

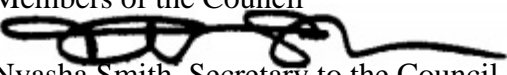
X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 21-363 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony.
4. Legal Sufficiency Determination for PR 21-363.
5. Committee Print for PR 21-363.

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20004

Memorandum

To : Members of the Council

From : 
Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

Date : October 06, 2015

Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Monday, October 5, 2015. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015", PR21-0363

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to the Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed approved on Sunday, December 6, 2015 without Council action.

Attachment

cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,
which was referred to the Committee on _____

To confirm the reappointment of Michael L. Ferrell to the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L. Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Michael L. Ferrell
1611 Lemontree Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20904

as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, as a representative of an organization that provides services within the Continuum of Care pursuant to section 4(a) of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-752.01)(2015 Supp.), to serve for a term to end May 1, 2017.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Responses to Questions from the D.C. Council Committee of the Whole:
District's Interagency Council on Homeless**

Submitted by

**Michael L. Ferrell
November 2, 2015**

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions 2-8 in lieu of the statement.
2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$5,000, including publicly traded stock.

Not Applicable

3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business(including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$1,000 during the past two years.

Not Applicable

4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.

Currently, I am the Executive Director of the D.C. Coalition for the Homeless. I have held this position since 1996. The Coalition is a 501 C 3 nonprofit incorporated in the District of Columbia in 1981. The mission of the Coalition is to help transition homeless and at risk individuals and families to self-sufficiency through housing programs and supportive social services. The Coalition currently manages 12 different program sites in the District and provides direct services to more than 500 homeless men, women and children daily.

The Coalition has contracts with the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness to provide an array of services that include temporary housing, substance abuse counseling, employment and housing placement assistances and case management services to the homeless in the District. These contracts are funded by the D.C. Department of Human Services.

5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$5,000. Do not include loans from federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.

Not Applicable

6. Please list location of all property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000.

Not Applicable

7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.

None

8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

Leadership Greater Washington in the District of Columbia, Class of 2006.

9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member, and included the term of service for each.

District's Interagency Council on Homelessness since 2006

10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member.

Board of Directors: Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness

11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount or to resolve the disputes claims.

No.

12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness?

No.

13. What do you believe is the purpose of the Interagency Council on Homelessness and the role of its members, and why have you agreed to serve?

The purpose of the ICH is help the District government with developing plans, policies, strategies, programs and monitoring for the District's Continuum of Care of homeless services.

I have agreed to serve on the ICH because I have worked in programs that provide temporary housing, shelter and supportive services to the homeless for 35 years. In addition, I have been an active member of the ICH since its inception in 2006. Currently, I chair the Shelter Capacity Committee of the ICH, which is a sub-committee of the Emergency Response and Operations Shelter Committee, and serve on the ICH Strategic Planning Committee.

14. Please discuss any past and present experience not already mentioned that you believe is relevant to support your appointment as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

In addition to my 35 years of direct experience working with the homeless, I am a founding Board member of Unity Health Care, which is celebrating its 30 anniversary, served on the Board of D.C. Central Kitchen and currently Chair the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Homeless Services Committee, which is responsible for the annual regional point-in-time count of the homeless report.

15. As a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, what will be your top five priorities?

- 1. Prevention of Homelessness**
- 2. Ending Homeless**
- 3. Affordable Housing**
- 4. Employment and Job Training**
- 5. Health Care**

END.



COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

**Testimony of Michael L. Ferrell
To the Committee of the Whole, on
PR 21-366, "Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L. Ferrell
Confirmation Resolution 2015"
November 4, 2015**

Good morning Chairman Mendelson and members of the Council. My name is Michael Ferrell, and I am the Executive Director of the Coalition for Homeless in the District of Columbia. I thank the Mayor for nominating me for reappointment to serve as a member of the District's Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) and the D.C. Council for the opportunity to talk about my relevant qualifications and experience at this public roundtable today.

I am a native of Washington, D.C. with more than 35 years of experience in public service, including with the D.C. Department of Employment Services, the former D.C. Commission on Social Services, and the Council of Churches of Greater Washington. I have been employed with the Coalition for the Homeless since 1989 and have been its Executive Director since 1996. The Coalition for the Homeless is a District of Columbia based nonprofit that has served homeless men, women and children since 1981. The Coalition provides food, transitional and permanent housing, substance abuse counseling, employment placement assistance and other supportive social services at 12 different program sites within the District of Columbia, and provides direct services to more than 840 homeless men, women and children annually.

In 2014, the Coalition assisted 168 persons to obtain employment and 299 individuals and families to move into permanent housing, which is the ultimate mission of the organization.

In addition to my work for the past 26 years at the Coalition for the Homeless, I have been actively involved in numerous Boards and committees working on issues affecting people who become homeless in our community. Some of these activities have included participating on the committees that created the District's strategic plan for ending homelessness called "Homeless No More" in 2004, the rules that govern the management of the District's homeless services, the "Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005", and the first Interagency Council on Homelessness established in 2006. As an active member of the ICH, I currently serve on the Strategic Planning Committee, which developed the District's updated strategic plan to end homelessness "Homeward D.C.", and I Chair the Shelter Capacity Committee of the ICH, which is a sub-committee of the Emergency Response and Operations Shelter Committee. This Committee is also responsible for developing the District's annual Winter Plan. Since 2003, I have convened monthly meetings with the male homeless service providers to discuss topical issues related to shelter services for homeless men.

My nonprofit Board participation has included being a founding Board member of Unity Health Care, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary of service to the homeless and low income households in our community this year, the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness, D.C. Central Kitchen, and the Coalition of Homeless and Housing Organizations (COHHO). I currently Chair the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Homeless Services Committee, which is responsible for the annual regional point-in-time count of the homeless report.

I fully understand and support the purpose and role of the ICH to assist the District government with developing plans, policies, strategies, programs and monitoring for the District's Continuum of Care of homeless services. While homelessness continues to be a challenge in the District and throughout the region, I have seen and participated in the changes that have moved the District away from warehousing the homeless to providing supportive social services that enable people to move out of homelessness and live more self-sufficiently. For example, the advancement of permanent supportive housing in the District has made a significant impact in reducing the number of chronically homeless living on the streets and in shelters by placing them in decent housing with supportive social services. Much more work remains to be done and I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to be a part of the efforts to end homelessness in the District as a member of the ICH.

In closing, thank you Chairman Mendelson and the Council for the opportunity to share a little about my background and my commitment to continuing the vital work of the Interagency Council on Homelessness on behalf of the District's most vulnerable citizens today.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 Committee of the Whole
3 November 17, 2015
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8 **A PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

9
10 21-363

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12 **IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
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17 To confirm the Mayoral reappointment of Mr. Michael L. Ferrell to the Interagency
18 Council on Homelessness.

19
20 **RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That**
21 this resolution may be cited as the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Michael L.
22 Ferrell Confirmation Resolution of 2015”.

23 **Sec. 2.** The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

24 **Mr. Michael L. Ferrell**
25 **1611 Lemontree Lane**
26 **Silver Spring, MD 20904**
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29 as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness as a representative from an
30 organization that provides services within the Continuum of Care, pursuant to section 4
31 of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-
32 35; D.C. Official Code § 4-752.01) (2015 Supp.), to serve for a term to end May 1, 2017.

33 **Sec. 3.** The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this
34 resolution, upon its adoption, to the appointee and the Office of the Mayor.

35 **Sec. 4.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.