

**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 21-369, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Albert Townsend Confirmation Resolution of 2015”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 21-369, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Albert Townsend Confirmation Resolution of 2015” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

CONTENTS

I.	Background And Need.....	1
II.	Legislative Chronology.....	2
III.	Position Of The Executive.....	3
IV.	Comments Of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions	3
V.	Summary Of Testimony.....	3
VI.	Impact On Existing Law	4
VII.	Fiscal Impact.....	4
VIII.	Section-By-Section Analysis	4
IX.	Committee Action.....	5
X.	Attachments	5

I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Proposed Resolution 21-369, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Albert Townsend 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 21-369 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Albert Townsend for appointment as a member of the District’s Interagency Council on Homelessness as a formerly homeless representative.

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

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

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. Townsend is currently a resident of Virginia and an advocate for homeless individuals. Mr. Townsend has personally experienced homelessness and worked in various capacities advocating for and assisting individuals experiencing homelessness. This experience has equipped Mr. Brooks to contribute significantly to the ICH's ongoing efforts to end homelessness in the District.

The Committee of the Whole recommends his appointment.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 5, 2015 | PR 21-369, the "Interagency Council on Homelessness Albert Townsend Confirmation Resolution of 2015" is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor. |
| October 6, 2015 | PR 21-369 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 21-369 will be deemed approved. |
| October 9, 2015 | Notice of Intent to Act on PR 21-369 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> . |
| October 23, 2015 | Notice of a Public Hearing on PR 21-369 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. |
| 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 21-369. |

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.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Townsend 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 qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

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 reappointment to the ICH.

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

Albert Townsend, Nominee, summarized his background and personal experience with homelessness. Mr. Townsend emphasized his experience with homelessness and his commitment to changing the homeless services system in the District of Columbia.

Margaret A. HacsKaylo, 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 21-369.

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 21-369 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

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of PR 21-369.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Albert Townsend.
<u>Section 3</u>	Directs the Council to transmit a copy of this resolution to the nominee and the Office of the Mayor.
<u>Section 4</u>	Provides that PR 21-369 shall take effect immediately upon publication in the <i>DC Register</i> .

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

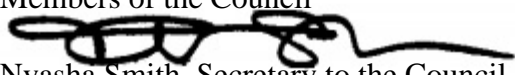
X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 21-369 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony.
4. Legal Sufficiency Determination for PR 21-369.
5. Committee Print for PR 21-369.

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 Albert Townsend Confirmation Resolution of 2015", PR21-0369

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 appointment of Albert Townsend 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 Albert Townsend Confirmation Resolution of 2015".

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

Albert Townsend
860 S. Greenbrier Street, NE
Unit 1
Arlington, VA 22204

as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to serve as a formerly homeless representative, 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)(2014 Suppl.), replacing Jackie L. Chandler, and to serve for a term to end August 10, 2016.

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.

November 2, 2015

Chairman Phil Mendelson
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Responses to Council questions for 11/4/15 ICH nomination public roundtable

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 that statement? NA

See answers to questions 2-8 below.

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? NA
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? NA
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? NA
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 a 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? NA
6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000. NA
7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you? NA

8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member? NA
9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member, and include the term of service for each? NA
10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member? NA
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 owed or to resolve the disputed claim? NA
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? NA
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?

I fill the ICH has a very strong mission and purpose currently and it does a great job as the linchpin in building capacity for its membership base and in return its membership provides support to broaden and strengthen its outreach and assist in implementing its plan.

An over the last 7 1/2 years i have personally learned many valuable lessons from the ICH, obtained many opportunities, connected to many valuable resources and gained a wealth of knowledge in which i have built personal power and i want to give back through sharing my experiences and talents to assist the community of people who are most vulnerable, and the ICH full Council is a great platform to serve, share and learn through..

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?

As an advocate in the community ive actively participated within the work of the ICH which has helped me grow, reach wider and deeper circles as well as helped the ICH develop new partnerships and collaborations within the community we serve, as a result i am a committee member of both the strategic and executive committee and i would like to heighten my level of participations by serving further on the full council so i can learn, grow and give back more then was giving to me.

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

- A. Support the current strategic plan and goals
- B. Promise to be 100% committed and participate fully
- C. Promise to gain new knowledge and work collectively
- D. Encourage the community of people to get more involved
- E. Educate the community about the ICH and its initiatives

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these answers to your questions.

Sincerely,

Albert Townsend

Opening Statement:

Over the last 7 1/2 years i can say im honored to have grown with a group of people who have been committed to changing the system of homelessness in the district year after year. I've been actively involved in this work since my homeless days, when i didnt even understand what Continuum of Care stood for and who was best to provide it for me.

But, when i look back it was that same care that created my come back, that same care that strengthen my understanding of the work thats best suited for folks in the community, and that same care who increased my level of participation and commitment, and that care came from many of the folks in this room, who have been servents for the people of the District of Columbia for years.

So accepting the nomination to the full council is a an easy yes, because many of the supports, collaborators and partners who i have been making change year after year after year to the homeless service system are the same cohorts that i will be partnering on the full council. im excited.

Hello Mr Chairman, Council Members and My Peers

Over the last 7 ½ Year I can say I'm honored to have grown with a group of people who have been committed to changing the homeless service system for individuals who are a part of our community here in the District. I have been actively involved in working towards ending homelessness since my own homeless days back between 2008/2010 when I didn't even understand what COC stood for and who was best at providing that care.

But, when I look it was that care that created my come back, that same care that strengthen my understanding of the work that's best suited for folks in the community, An that same care who increased my level of participation and commitment, and that care came from some or all the members in this room, who have been servants for the Districts of Columbia's home community for years.

So, without them I would have been able to be a part of:

- 1 Planning and Organizing, the People for Fairness Coalitions work around the homeless vigil which commorate those individuals who die on the streets of the district of Columbia but also cormorants those individuals who live homeless on the street
- 2 Facilitating the listening sessions for families, individuals and youth so that the ICH could garner more support from the homeless communities and ask for there participation, and to be more actively involved, so that many voices are heard around the table.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 Committee of the Whole
3 November 17, 2015
4

5
6
7 **A PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

8
9 21-369

10
11 **IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
12
13
14
15

16 To confirm the Mayoral appointment of Mr. Albert Townsend to the Interagency Council on
17 Homelessness.

18
19 **RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this**
20 resolution may be cited as the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Albert Townsend
21 Confirmation Resolution of 2015”.

22 **Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:**

23 **Mr. Albert Townsend**
24 **860 S. Greenbrier Street, NE**
25 **Unit 1**
26 **Arlington, VA 22204**
27

28
29 as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to serve as a formerly homeless
30 representative, pursuant to section 4 of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective
31 October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-752.01) (2015 Supp.), replacing
32 Jackie L. Chandler, and to serve for a term to end August 10, 2016.

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

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