

**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 21-371, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Margaret Riden Confirmation Resolution of 2015”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 21-371, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Margaret Riden 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 21-371, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Margaret Riden 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 21-371 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Margaret Riden for appointment as a member of the District’s Interagency Council on Homelessness as an advocate for the District’s homeless population.

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.

Ms. Riden is currently a resident of Ward 1 and the Executive Director of the DC Alliance of Youth Advocates, a District-based coalition of policy experts and advocates for issues affecting youth. She is a graduate of Tufts University, where she earned a Master of Arts. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Ms. Riden’s career has focused on the needs of vulnerable youth and families. Her focus on youth will be of great value to the ICH’s ongoing efforts related to youth homelessness.

The Committee of the Whole recommends her reappointment.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| October 5, 2015 | PR 21-371, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Margaret Riden Confirmation Resolution of 2015” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor. |
| October 6, 2015 | PR 21-371 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 21-371 will be deemed approved. |
| October 9, 2015 | Notice of Intent to Act on PR 21-371 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> . |
| October 23, 2015 | Notice of a Public Hearing on PR 21-371 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 21-371. |

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.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Ms. Riden 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 and 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 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. Hacskaylo, Nominee, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

Margaret Riden, Nominee, summarized her background and described her experience working to address youth homelessness. She noted that ending youth homelessness must focus on areas beyond housing to stabilize youth experiencing homelessness. Ms. Riden emphasized her desire to utilize her varied experience to continue her work with 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 21-371.

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 21-371 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 21-371.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Margaret Riden.
<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 21-371 shall take effect immediately upon publication in the <i>DC Register</i> .

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

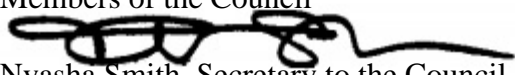
X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 21-371 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony.
4. Legal Sufficiency Determination for PR 21-371.
5. Committee Print for PR 21-371.

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 Margaret Riden Confirmation Resolution of 2015", PR21-0371

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 Margaret Riden 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 Margaret Riden Confirmation Resolution of 2015".

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

Margaret Riden
1443 Monroe Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010
(Ward 1)

as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to serve as an advocate for the District's homeless population, 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, 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.

October 22, 2015

Margaret Riden
1334 Monroe Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010

Dear Ms. Riden:

Congratulations on being nominated for reappointment to serve as a member of the District's Interagency Council on Homelessness. As you know, the appointment is subject to confirmation by the Council. The Committee of the Whole has scheduled a public roundtable on your nomination for **Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 412**. Enclosed is a copy of the hearing notice.

It is standard for the Council to submit questions to nominees. I request your response to the following questions no later than close of business Monday, 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 that 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.
 - (i) N/A
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.
 - (i) N/A
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.
 - (i) DC Alliance of Youth Advocates, Executive Director. Although DCAYA does not receive any funding from, nor engage in financial transactions with District Government, it is a recognized non-profit entity operating with /within the District.

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.
 - (i) N/A
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.
 - (i) N/A
7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.
 - (i) N/A
8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.
 - (i) N/A
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.
 - (i) Interagency Council on Homelessness
 - (ii) Anti-Bullying Task Force
 - (iii) Mayor Bowser's Shelter Redesign Task Force
10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member.
 - (i) Board member: Mid-Atlantic Network for Youth (MANY)
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.
 - (i) 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?
 - (i) 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?

- (i) The Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) is a group of cabinet-level leaders, providers of homeless services, advocates, homeless and formerly homeless leaders that come together to inform and guide the District's strategies and policies for meeting the needs of individuals and families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless in the District of Columbia.
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.
- (i) See Written Statement
15. As a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, what will be your top five priorities?
- (i) Ensuring youth voice is represented in the discussions and decisions that impact them at both the full ICH and relevant committees
 - (ii) Completion of the youth strategic plan to end youth homelessness
 - (iii) Data driven decision making that is aligned with the overarching strategy to ensure homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring
 - (iv) Advocating for the needs of youth headed households and children residing in any level of the continuum of care
 - (v) Working collaboratively across agencies and institutions to ensure robust input from, and the full participation of, all key partners.

At the November 4 roundtable, you will be asked to make an opening statement indicating your interest in serving as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness. The testimony of persons interested in supporting your nomination is helpful but not necessary. Interested parties may call the Committee office to register to testify (724-8196) or, alternatively, may submit written comments to the Committee regarding your nomination via letter mail or e-mail (aintrieri@dccouncil.us).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me or Alana Intrieri on my staff at 724-8083.

Sincerely,

Phil Mendelson
Chairman

enc.
PM/ai

Maggie Riden, DC Alliance of Youth Advocates
Testimony to the Committee of the Whole
ICH Confirmation Resolution
November 4, 2015



Good afternoon Chairman Mendelson, Councilmembers and Committee Staff. My name is Maggie Riden and I am honored to have been re-nominated for appointment to the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Since starting at the DC Alliance of Youth Advocates in 2010 as the policy analyst responsible for youth homelessness and now as Executive Director I have immersed myself in the issue of youth homelessness here in the District. Working regularly with the realm of youth providers I have gained an intimate understanding of how this issue manifests in the District. I was the primary author and researcher in the first study of youth homelessness in the District of Columbia: *From the Streets to Stability: A study of youth homelessness in the District of Columbia*. I have provided consistent feedback and recommendations to this body in the development of the Ending Youth Homelessness Amendment Act, the LGBTQ Youth Homelessness Amendment Act and the Victims of Human Trafficking legislation. Finally, I have been an active and consistent participant in the Interagency Council on Homelessness, staffing the ICH Strategic Planning Committee, among others, to ensure a youth voice and co-facilitating the Strategic Planning Committee's Sub-Committee on Youth Homelessness.

In the 5 years I have worked with the ICH, we have realized significant progress toward ensuring that the District's policy responses and interventions to homelessness writ large account for the distinct needs of youth and young adults; achievements that I look forward to furthering in the years to come.

My passion for youth homelessness did not begin with DCAYA. It is actually the result of over 13 years working to support the development and improve the outcomes for under resourced and 'at risk' youth.

I started my career at an alternative high school for students with significant learning or behavioral needs. Working as a paraprofessional I began to cultivate a deep understanding of the educational, social and emotional development of youth and young adults, how to approach and engage a young person effectively and how to understand and manage behaviors- negative and positive.

Building on these skills I moved on to work as a case manager at a group home for young women in the foster and juvenile justice system in Brockton MA just as the practice of extended hospitalizations and long term residential treatment facilities had declined and the system was inundated with highly institutionalized youth who were within years of aging out of care. The continuum of care was not equipped to meet the diverse and dynamic needs of these youth. The result was frequent exits from state care directly on to the street, or at the very least, significant periods of housing instability. As the system evolved, so did I. In 2004 I started at the Communities for People Rediscovery House

Independent Living Program. As the first Program Director of an independent living program, I was charged with helping youth prepare for full independence (outside of the child welfare and juvenile justice system), providing subsidized housing, opportunities for independent living skill development, and educational and workforce training opportunities. In this role, I was able both draw on, and continue to develop my understanding of youth development, program design and service delivery. This role also reinforced the importance of many systems working in conjunction to support positive youth outcomes. I'm proud to say that in the 2 years I directed the program, of our roughly 30 residents, only one left our program without a stable next step. An outcome that I believe speaks to the importance of holistic, youth specific services. Achieving stability for a young person starts with safe housing; sustaining stable independence however requires far more- education, living wage employment, a welcoming community of mentors, peers and family.

After 6 years; I made the difficult decision to leave direct service accepting a position as an Education Coordinator contracted to work with department of Child and Family Services in Boston. In this capacity I helped families, social workers and residential staff understand the applications of federal and state special education laws; often advocating on their behalf in eligibility determination, IEP and mediation meetings. This position further developed my expertise in the realm of child and youth development while also providing me with the opportunity to begin to work on these issues from a policy and systems level perspective. I continued in this capacity for nearly two years, and remained on as a consultant while pursuing my Masters Degree at Tufts University.

The reason I've taken the time to articulate my background prior to DCAYA and discuss my qualifications outside of just the housing optic is that to prevent youth homelessness and stabilize youth who are homeless requires a broad array of skills, insights and expertise; and a nuanced understanding of the dynamic factors leading into and out of homelessness. My experience and back ground in each of these areas combined with my demonstrated local expertise and commitment to addressing this issue in the District are why I, if confirmed, am committed to serving on the Interagency Council on Homelessness. Thank you for your time and I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Required Questions

- 1. Are you a resident of the District of Columbia and, if so, in which Ward of the District do you reside?**

I am currently a resident of the District of Columbia and I reside in Ward 1

- 2. Do you own any real property in the District of Columbia, including your primary residence? If yes, please list all holdings and investments, including property for which you are part-owner.**

I do not own any property, holdings or investments in the District of Columbia

- 3. Are you presently an officer or director of any corporation, partnership, or other organization in the District of Columbia, either profit or non-profit, which is doing business with the District of Columbia government? If so, please list such positions.**

While I am the Executive Director of a local non-profit advocacy organization that frequently speaks to and works alongside the government of the District of Columbia but at not juncture does this business extend to direct services, paid or otherwise, and my organization receives no funding from any government body.

- 4. Do you, or does any member of your immediate family, hold an ownership interest in any firm that is now doing or has ever done business with the District of Columbia government? If so, please identify the firm, the extent of your or your family member's ownership interest, and the firm's contracts or other business relationships with the District of Columbia government.**

Neither I, nor any family members, holds an ownership interest in any firm in the District of Columbia or has done business with the District of Columbia government.

- 5. Do you have any outstanding liability for any 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.**

I do not have any outstanding liability for any taxes, fees or other payments to the the District, federal or other state or local governments.

- 6. Are you presently a member of any board or commission connected with the District government? If so, please list the names of such boards or commissions, and length of service.**

I have been nominated for and am currently undergoing the nomination and appointment process to serve on Mayor Gray's Anti-Bullying Task Force. Aside from this body, I do not currently serve on any board or commission connected with the District Government.

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

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9 21-371

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11 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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16 To confirm the Mayoral reappointment of Ms. Margaret Riden to the Interagency Council on
17 Homelessness.

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

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

23 Ms. Margaret Riden
24 1443 Monroe Street, NW
25 Washington, DC 20010
26 (Ward 1)
27
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29 as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to serve as an advocate for the
30 District’s homeless population, pursuant to section 4 of the Homeless Services Reform Act of
31 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-752.01) (2015
32 Supp.), to serve for a term to end May 1, 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.