



OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN MENDELSON
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wednesday April 19, 2023

CONTACT: Lindsey Walton

lwalton@dccouncil.gov

**CHAIRMAN MENDELSON STATEMENT ON HOUSE VOTE
DISAPPROVING DC POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BILL**

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson released this statement following the House of Representatives vote disapproving H.J. Res. 42:

“This was no surprise, but unfortunate nevertheless,” Mendelson said. “Republicans say public safety is not a partisan issue, but this vote clearly was. This vote was yet another step in their 2024 campaign to make Democrats, and Democrat-dominated cities, look bad.

“But the truth is, this is all about police accountability,” Mendelson continued. “It’s incredible that Republicans think accountability is anti-police. Last I checked, DC Residents want good cops. Good cops are not afraid of being held accountable for their actions.

“The Republicans demanded that I and Councilmember Charles Allen answer to their extreme rhetoric about lawlessness and disrespect for human life. They weren’t interested in our answers. Instead, they’re using the District once again for national campaign purposes.

“If the Republicans truly were sincere about helping the District fight crime, they would not propose cutting resources to DC law enforcement and our court system, and instead add resources so that more cases can be prosecuted. A two-thirds declination rate at the US Attorney’s Office has to be discouraging to the morale of our police officers.”