

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F Government of the District of Columbia 5 Thomas Circle, NW | Washington, D.C. 20005 Phone: (202) 642-3168 | Email: anc2foffice@gmail.com

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September 4, 2019

Mary Cheh, Councilmember Ward 3 Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 108 Washington, DC 20004

Anita Bonds, Councilmember At-Large Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 404 Washington, DC 20004

RE: ANC2F Support for B23-0037 - Care for LGBTQ Seniors and Seniors with HIV Amendment Act of 2019

Dear Councilmembers Cheh and Bonds,

On the evening of August 15, 2019, at a properly noticed meeting with a quorum present, ANC2F considered and approved the following letter in support of B23-0037 – Care for LGBTQ Seniors and Seniors with HIV Amendment Act of 2019 by a vote of 6-0.

As introduced, the Care for LGBTQ Seniors and Seniors with HIV Amendment Act of 2019 includes LGBTQ seniors and seniors with HIV in the definition of groups of greatest social need for the purpose of allocating funds. It also establishes an LGBTQ HIV long-term care bill of rights. While ANC2F believes there is much more that needs to be done to support our seniors and LGBTQ community, we support this bill and believe it is an excellent start.

HIV disproportionately impacts the LGBT community and especially communities of color, and the number of LGBT older adults with HIV is increasing. Thirty years ago, the idea that someone with HIV would live decades was unimaginable. Now people with HIV are living well into their golden years. We also know that many LGBTQ seniors and seniors with HIV report having experienced discrimination and social stigmatization throughout their lives, and this includes access to health care and social services, making this bill essential to ensuring that all seniors in the District of Columbia have equal access to the health care and services that exist for their benefit. [9/4/2019] Page 2

ANC2F looks forward supporting the Council on this and similar issues and are eager to work collaboratively with you to ensure passage of this important legislation.

John Farming

Commissioner John Fanning Chairman, ANC 2F

CC: Muriel Bowser, Mayor of the District of Columbia Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia Brandon Todd, Chairman, Committee on Government Operations Gottlieb Simon, Office of the Advisory neighborhood Commissions