



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

January 17, 2018

Councilmember Mary Cheh
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 108
Washington, DC 20004
mcheh@dccouncil.us

Councilmember Vincent Gray
Chair, Committee on Health
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 406
Washington, DC 20004
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RE: DC Council Bill B22-0223 – the “Public Restroom Facilities Installation and Promotion Act of 2017”

Dear Councilmember Cheh and Councilmember Gray,

At its regular meeting on November 15, 2017, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted (4-0-2), after a motion made by Commissioner Zhurbinskiy and seconded by Commissioner Campbell, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, many individuals need access to clean, safe, available public restrooms, including tourists, families with young children, women who are pregnant, the elderly, individuals with bowel incontinence, and people without housing,

WHEREAS, a study conducted by the People for Fairness Coalition (PFC) revealed that there are very few public restrooms in downtown Washington, DC, some establishments do not allow people to use restrooms unless they first purchase something, and in most downtown neighborhoods there are no restrooms available late at night or early in the morning,

WHEREAS, most capital cities in Europe and Asia have clean, safe public restrooms that are easily accessible at any time of night or day, while this is not the case in our Nation’s Capital,

WHEREAS, a number of large cities in the U.S. have begun to experiment with a variety of restroom options, including self-cleaning restrooms, restrooms with attendants, and the Portland, Oregon Loo, a 24-hour sustainable public restroom,



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while in London there is a government program that provides incentives to private establishments if they put up signs indicating their restroom is open to all, and

WHEREAS, if a person cannot find a restroom in DC and has no other option than to relieve themselves in a public space, the penalty is a ticket of up to \$500 or a jail term up to 90 days.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports the passage of DC Council Bill B22-0223 – the “Public Restroom Facilities Installation and Promotion Act of 2017.”

Commissioner Patrick Kennedy (2A01@anc.dc.gov) is the Commission’s representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy
Chairperson