



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale
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March 11, 2020

Mr. Wayne Turnage
Director
Department of Health Care Finance
441 4th Street NW, 900S
Washington, DC 20001
wayne.turnage@dc.gov

Councilmember Vincent Gray
Chair, Committee on Health
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 406
Washington, DC 20004
vgray@dccouncil.us

RE: A Medicaid Buy-In Program in DC

Dear Director Turnage and Councilmember Gray,

On March 2, 2020 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by seven commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

WHEREAS, 13% of the population of the District of Columbia has some sort of disability, and this group often has low access to appropriate healthcare and low levels of employment,

WHEREAS, DC Medicaid currently serves about 49,000 people as part of its “Aged, Blind, Disabled” and “Long-Term Care” Programs,

WHEREAS, these programs do not allow beneficiaries to make more than \$12,489.96 per year in income or ever hold more than \$4,000 in savings at any given time, thereby disincentivizing employment and preventing disabled people from pursuing gainful careers,

WHEREAS, current regulations force beneficiaries with disabilities that require high-cost medical intervention to choose between keeping their healthcare and having a job,

WHEREAS, at least 44 U.S. states have implemented Medicaid Buy-In Programs over the last several decades to solve this issue of economic discrimination and ableism, allowing beneficiaries to contribute more to their care as their income increases, and

COMMISSIONERS:

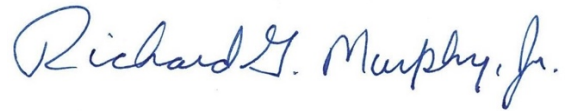
Kishan Putta, District 1 Joe Gibbons, District 2 Rick Murphy, District 3
Anna Landre, District 4 Lisa Palmer, District 5 Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Elizabeth Miller, District 7 Matias Burdman, District 8

WHEREAS, this would eliminate the current “benefits cliff” and empower thousands of disabled DC residents the freedom to seek employment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E recommends the implementation of a Medicaid Buy-In Program for the benefit of people with disabilities in pursuing employment in the District of Columbia.

Commissioners Anna Landre (2E04@anc.dc.gov) and Rick Murphy (2E03@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard G. Murphy, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Rick Murphy
Chair, ANC 2E