



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

3265 S Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007

(484) 885-8814 • anc2e@dc.gov

April 2, 2024

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Mayor
Government of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004
muriel.bowser@dc.gov

Chairman Phil Mendelson
Chair, Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004
pmendelson@dccouncil.gov

RE: Prohibition of Cannabis Retailers Near Schools Emergency Amendment Act of 2024

Dear Mayor Muriel Bowser and Chairman Phil Mendelson,

On April 1st, 2024 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:

ANC 2E strongly endorses the passage on an emergency basis of the Prohibition of Cannabis Retailers Near Schools Emergency Amendment Act of 2024, and the related amendment and resolution. Without the adoption of this bill, medical cannabis retailers will be allowed to open within 300 feet of preschools, primary and secondary schools, and recreation centers if said schools or recreation centers happen to be located on a real estate lot fully or partially zoned commercial or industrial.

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Topher Mathews, District 2 Paul Maysak, District 3
Joe Massaua, District 4 Mimsy Lindner, District 5 Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Daniel Chao, District 7 John DiPierri, District 8

Such a result would contravene the ultimate purpose of the proximity prohibition, which is about creating a physical buffer between places where children routinely visit and the retail establishments regardless of zoning. ANC 2E is home to over a dozen pre-schools, primary and secondary schools and recreation centers, however some of these happen to occupy commercial lots. ANC 2E strongly believes that the children who attend these schools deserve the same protections as any other children throughout the city. The proposed bill would provide this protection.

ANC 2E strongly supports its immediate adoption.

Commissioners Christopher Mathews (2E02@anc.dc.gov) and Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gwendolyn Lohse" followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Gwendolyn Lohse
Chair, ANC 2E

CC: Councilmember Brianne Nadeau, Ward 1
Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2
Councilmember Matt Frumin, Ward 3
Councilmember Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4
Councilmember Zachary Parker, Ward 5
Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6
Councilmember Vincent Gray, Ward 7
Councilmember Trayon White, Sr., Ward 8
Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, At-Large
Councilmember Anita Bonds, At-Large
Councilmember Robert White, At-Large
Councilmember Christina Henderson, At-Large
Grace Reeder, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services
Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director for Councilmember Brooke Pinto