

**Ward 3 Democratic Committee, District of Columbia, October 13, 2011**

**Resolution: Nomination of Elizabeth Noël as Public Service Commissioner**

WHEREAS the District of Columbia has long been in need of a Public Service Commission which will better address the issues of reliable and adequate service from the utilities it regulates; and

WHEREAS Elizabeth Noël, one of this city's most distinguished public servants, has been nominated by Mayor Vincent Gray to serve on the Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS Ms. Noël had a long and successful career in the Office of the People's Counsel, first as a primary aide to her predecessors, and then as the People's Counsel, where she served with outstanding competence and memorable style; and

WHEREAS Ms. Noël demonstrated her analytic understanding of complex issues through, among many other things, her strong and prophetic warnings about the negative consequences of utility deregulation and of the sale of Pepco's generating assets; and

WHEREAS Attorney General of the District of Columbia has determined that Ms. Noel may properly and legally serve as a commissioner of the Public Service Commission, there being no conflict of interest between her former and prospective positions; and

WHEREAS any claim that Ms. Noel's function as a commissioner would be disabled by a high portion of current cases in which she would be obliged to recuse herself, has been shown to be baseless, since information supplied by the Public Service Commission shows that there are sixty open cases of which 44 are inactive and could be closed without further decision-making, and 6 are minor tariff cases, leaving 10 major open cases, of which only 3 were opened before the end of Ms. Noel's term as People's Counsel; and

WHEREAS no one could be better qualified to perform the duties of a Public Service Commissioner, to insure that the ratepayers of the District of Columbia are provided with safe, adequate, and reliable service by the public utility companies that serve the District; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Ward 3 Democratic Committee strongly supports the confirmation of Elizabeth Noël to the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia.

Introduced by Peter Espenshied, Precinct 27 Delegate