

**Testimony on the Ward Three Democratic Committee**  
**By Brian Lederer**  
**In Support of the**  
**DC RESIDENT EMPLOYMENT AND TRADE STIMULUS**  
**AMENDMENT ACT OF 2010, Bill 18-0650**  
**Before the Committees on Committees on Housing and Workforce Development**  
**And Government Operations and the Environment**  
**Council of the District of Columbia**  
**June 30, 2010**

Chairs Brown and Cheh, members of the Committee and of the Council, it is with great pleasure that I present the testimony of Ward Three Democratic Committee in support of the DC Resident Employment and Trade Stimulus Amendment Action of 2010, Bill 18-0650. I am testifying as a member of the Committee, as a former Chair of the Committee, on behalf of the Committee at the request of our current chair, Mr. Thomas Smith.

Attached to this testimony is the resolution in support of this legislation, approved by the Committee at its meeting on June 17, 2010. Also, attached to this testimony is a set of questions and answers, which address many issues, which is incorporated in this testimony, and which was part of the discussion and inquiry conducted by the Committee prior to approval of the resolution.

In approving the supporting resolution, the Committee followed a process of due diligence. The Executive Board unanimously recommended support for the legislation, and for the resolution approved by the Committee. We developed a record and had thorough discussion on all aspects of the legislation before acting and approving the supporting resolution.

As a Committee, we believe this legislation would facilitate an important piece in an overall strategy to promote the economic interests of the District. All of us appreciate the financial limitations imposed on the District by the Congressional prohibition in approving home rule for the District on taxing income generated in the District by non-resident employees of the District. So, the Committee submits that enhancing the District's employment and economic base and strength by having District government dollars expended on construction projects to benefit the District to the maximum extent possible is a compelling reason to enact the legislation. Specifically, this legislation would "require that District government-assisted construction projects over \$200,000 have in place increased residency standards by skill level and trade, and that agreements are in place to ensure that the project will be completed and operated with full labor peace."

It is the view of the Ward Three Committee that the District and its Council should use the full extent of its authority in the public interest of the District, specifically to support and assist the economic and employment life of the District. The Fiscal 2011 budget just enacted by the Council underscores the urgency of applying every available tool to enhance the economy of the District. We view this proposal as an economic stimulus bill. When an opportunity presents itself, such as offered by the legislation, to strengthen our city, we must take it. The Ward Three

Democratic Committee strongly and enthusiastically supports this legislation and urges the Council to act without delay to enact the proposed legislation.