



VINCENT C. GRAY  
MAYOR

NOV 24 2014

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 504  
Washington, D.C. 20004

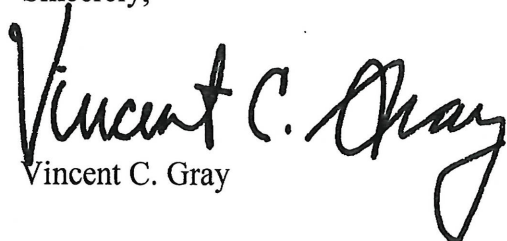
Dear Chairman Mendelson:


Enclosed for consideration and approval by the Council of the District of Columbia are three proposed measures entitled the “Nuisance Abatement Notice Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2014,” the “Nuisance Abatement Notice Emergency Amendment Act of 2014,” and the “Nuisance Abatement Notice Temporary Amendment Act of 2014.”

The enclosed measures make a needed clarification to a notice provision within the District’s vacant property law. For many years, the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) has provided notice to a property owner through mail and through postings at the property when the property’s status changed or needed to change. Recently, the Office of Administrative hearings determined that for a notice of infraction for failure to register a vacant or blighted property to be valid, all proceeding paperwork—not just the initial determination—must be posted on the property, in addition to being mailed to the property owner. This clarification is needed to ensure that the posting provision is satisfied by posting the initial vacant or blighted property determination. Without the change, DCRA will be forced to devote resources to posting additional paperwork on a property rather than on identifying and processing additional properties.

I urge prompt consideration and approval of this measure. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Rabbiah Sabbakhan, Interim Director, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, at (202) 442-8935.

Sincerely,

  
Vincent C. Gray

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on a temporary basis, An Act to provide for the abatement of nuisances in the District of Columbia by the Commissioners of said District, and for other purposes, to clarify that the posting requirement in section 5a is satisfied by posting the initial vacant or blight determination.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Nuisance Abatement Notice Temporary Amendment Act of 2014”.

Sec. 2. Section 5a of An Act To provide for the abatement of nuisances in the District of Columbia by the Commissioners of said District, and for other purposes, approved April 14, 1906 (34 Stat. 115; D.C. Official Code § 42–3131.05a) is amended by striking the phrase “Notice shall also be posted on the vacant building” and inserting the phrase “Notice of the registration or revocation of the registration of a vacant or blighted property shall also be posted on the vacant building” in its place.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 4. Effective date.

(a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional

1 review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved  
2 December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the  
3 District of Columbia Register.

4 (b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.  
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