



2020 OCT 15 PM 3:03  
OFFICE OF THE  
MAYOR

MURIEL BOWSER  
MAYOR

OCT 15 2020

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

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to section 6 of the Health Benefit Exchange Authority Establishment Act of 2011, effective March 2, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-94; D.C. Official Code § 31-3171.05 (2013 Repl.)), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

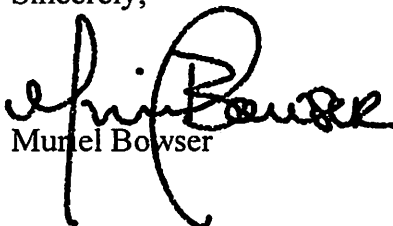
Mr. Khalid Pitts  
1434 S Street NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(Ward 2)

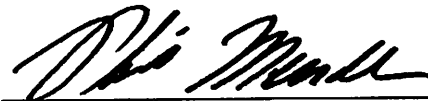
for reappointment as a voting member of the Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board, for a term to end July 6, 2022.

Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Muriel Bowser



Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,  
which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_.

To confirm the reappointment of Mr. Khalid Pitts to the Health Benefit Exchange Authority  
Executive Board.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
resolution may be cited as the "Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board Khalid Pitts  
Confirmation Resolution of 2018".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Mr. Khalid Pitts  
1434 S Street NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(Ward 2)

as a voting member of the Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board, pursuant to  
section 6 of the Health Benefit Exchange Authority Establishment Act of 2011, effective March  
2, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-94; D.C. Official Code § 31-3171.05) (2013 Repl.), for a term to end July  
6, 2022.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,  
upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

# Khalid R. Pitts

## Summary of Experience

- Seasoned political strategist and leader with over 20 years of experience managing national political and legislative campaigns, executive non-profit management and directing national and state-level advocacy programs
  - Co-Founder and Co-Chair of the Executive Board of Health Care for America Now (HCAN) – helped pass and defend the Affordable Care Act
  - Former President and Board Chair of USAction, USAction Education Fund and USAction PAC
  - Managed numerous national campaigns around the issues of healthcare, labor rights, economic justice, the environment, voting and civil rights and gun safety
- Excellent staff and project management skills with experience managing multiple vendors
  - Managed field staff of over 600 individuals
  - Managed budgets upwards of \$48 million
- Practiced fundraiser in the political, non-profit and private sectors
  - Increased Sierra Club's Independent PAC giving by 400%
  - Helped raise over \$20 million for HCAN
  - Raised over \$4 million in private investment capital
- Strong relationships with national leaders in government, progressive advocacy organizations as well as surrogate experience for organizations, campaigns and candidates
  - Senior Advisory to White House Common Purpose Project
  - Executive Board Member of Americans United for Change
  - Quotes, interviews and editorial opinions have appeared nationally, including in the *New York Times*, *the Wall Street Journal*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *the Washington Post*, *Politico*, *the Philadelphia Inquirer*, *USA Today*, *the National Journal*, *Vice Media* and appearances on ABC, CBS, NBC, *MSNBC*, the *CBC*, *National Public Radio* and international media outlets
- Experienced manager directing research and message development projects for political, issue-based and legislative campaigns, including managing polling, media and digital buys, direct mail and grassroots activities
- Proprietor of Cork Wine Bar & Market – one of Washington, D.C.'s finest and annual award-winning restaurants and specialty food markets since its founding in 2008 with extensive relationships within the Hospitality and Small Business Communities

## **Executive Experience**

### **USACTION / USACTION EDUCATION FUND, Washington, D.C.**

*President and Board Chair*

*March 2012 – January 2017*

Led one of the country's largest grassroots networks, founded in 1999, USAction, its 501 (c) (3), (4) and PAC, made up of 30 state affiliates. As President and Board Chair, duties included governance of the organization; chairing the executive board committee, managing the strategic direction of the organization; fundraising for the national entity and its state affiliates; and leading and managing a successful three-way organizational merger with National People's Action.

## **Business Experience**

### **DEMOCRACY PARTNERS, Washington, DC**

*Senior Partner*

*March 2014 – Present*

Political consultant at one of the leading strategic consulting firms in the United States. Active in providing cutting edge strategies, campaign management advice, communication tools, grassroots advocacy plans and grassroots mobilization systems to national and international clients.

## **Political/Campaign Experience**

### **SIERRA CLUB, Washington, D.C.**

*National Political Director*

*June 2015 – February 2017*

Directed the political program for the country's largest and oldest environmental organization on behalf of its 2.7 million members and supporters. Oversaw and managed the organization's federal and statewide electoral strategy and activities through its four political committees and 64 state chapters in all 50 states.

- Developed and directed strategies and campaign plans for all federal electoral campaigns, including management of communications between departments, hiring and supervisions of consultants and vendors and their contracts
- Managed core political team of six and associated volunteer political committee of fifteen members
- Led fundraising efforts in partnership with Executive Director among large corporate, private donors and foundations

### **CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE, Washington, D.C.**

*Candidate for At-Large City Council Seat*

*March 2014 – November 2014*

Campaign was recognized for its record setting fundraising program, innovative campaign tactics and establishment of a new political face within Washington, D.C. local political circles.

### **SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION (SEIU), Washington, D.C.**

*Director, Strategic Campaigns*

*February 2004 – March 2014*

Directed and Coordinated SEIU's federal issue, political and ballot initiative campaign activities, serving as principal staffer developing coalition tables and building strategic partnerships. In addition, served as senior campaign and project manager for special projects on union-wide activities and actions. Areas of Experience:

- Campaign Management:
  - Directed national strategy and state-wide operations on legislative, political and issue campaigns
  - Responsible for project management of multi-million dollar budgets

- Staff Management:
  - Managed SEIU's grassroots member-lobbying outreach and field-based operations
  - Reported directly to International Officers on program activities
- Media Representative:
  - SEIU spokesperson at national events and press forums
- Strategic Partnership Development:
  - Liaison with national groups, coordinated tables and political party structures on issue, legislative and political campaigns in order to direct SEIU's coordinated involvement

**DICK GEPHARDT FOR PRESIDENT INC., Washington, D.C.**

*Virginia State Director*

*October 2003 – February 2004*

Directed campaign's political outreach and field activities for Virginia's presidential primary election, including management of communication activities and serving as lead state-spokesperson.

**THE COALITION TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE (CSGV), Washington, D.C.**

**THE EDUCATIONAL FUND TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE (EFGV), Washington, D.C.**

*State Director*

*July 1999 – February 2004*

Directed federal and state public education, legislative and political campaigns of a 501 (c) (3), (4) and PAC, managing a core staff of six with a \$5 million budget.

**Policy and Analytical Experience**

**CENTRAL DETENTION FACILITY: THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,**

Washington, D.C.

*Senior Health Analyst*

*May 1997 - July 1999*

Supervised evaluation of patient services. Directed research projects, monitored and evaluated the facility's Health Service Program and presented findings to national boards, commissions and judicial bodies.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, Washington, D.C.**

*Senior Researcher*

*December 1995 - June 1997*

Implemented research protocol to reduce the rate of adolescent pregnancy in minority communities.

**THE BEVERLY COLEMAN MILLER GROUP, Washington, D.C.**

*Project Director*

*September 1995 - May 1997*

Designed and managed a federal government funded project targeting programmatic service development for youth living in public housing communities.

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, Boston, MA**

*Site Director*

*Sept. 1994 – Sept. 1995*

Administered school and clinically based violence prevention program and provided counseling for at risk youth. Served as a consultant with the Boston Police Department's juvenile probation division. Developed a mass media campaign directed at the community, government officials and the health care establishment.

## **Education**

**George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Washington, D.C.**  
Masters of Public Health

**The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts**  
Bachelor of Arts: History

## **National Boards and Advisory Positions**

### **Current**

Executive Board Member, Secretary-Treasurer: District of Columbia Healthcare Exchange

Executive Board Member: Association of Independent Restaurants

Board Member: Voices for Progress PAC

Board Member: People's Action PAC

### **Previous**

Former Executive Board Member, Secretary-Treasurer: Americans United for Change

Former Executive Board Member: Ballot Initiative Strategies Center

Former Executive Board Member, Co-Chair: Healthcare for America Now (HCAN)

Former Executive Board Member, Chairman: USAction and USAction Education Fund

Former Board Member: America Votes

Former Board Member: Ballot Initiative Strategy Center

Former Board Member: Coalition on Human Needs

Former Senior Advisor: White House Common Purpose Project

Former Senior Advisor: CAP Action Gun and Crime Policy

## **Publications**

### ***Books***

- *BUILDING VIOLENCE: How America's Rush to Incarcerate Creates More Violence*: Sage Publications, November 1999

### ***Journal Articles***

- *Reducing Gun Violence: A Case for Collaborative Efforts*: The Einstein Quarterly Journal of Biology and Medicine, 2005
- *Stop the Shooting: Calling Foundations to Arms*: The Chronicle of Philanthropy, June 2001.
- *Medical Care Solicitation by Criminals with Gunshot Wound Injuries: A Survey of Washington DC Jail Detainees*: Journal of Trauma, January 2000

### ***Newsletters***

- *The HRWG Newsletter*, Editor: Homicide Research Working Group (1999-2000)
- *Guide to Violence Prevention and Treatment*: Harvard School of Public Health, 1995

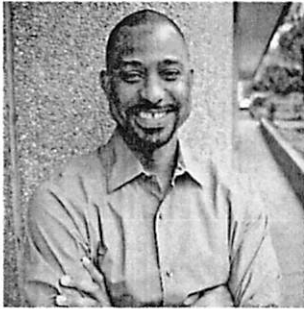
## **References**

Available upon Request



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments  
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

## Khalid Pitts



Khalid Pitts is a small business owner and current board member of the District of Columbia Healthcare Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board.

Mr. Pitts has a long history and commitment to the quality of life in the city and its residents. His community work began in Boston, where he worked for the Harvard School of Public Health as a Site Director for one of the school's youth-based violence prevention programs. Bringing that experience with him, Mr. Pitts worked for the Beverly Coleman Miller Group, where he designed and managed programs serving youth in DC's public housing communities. He continued his work with the youth of the District as a senior researcher at the National Institutes of Health, leading a team of investigators working to reduce pregnancy rates among teenagers in communities of color. Mr. Pitts has also worked as a senior health analyst with DC's Central Detention Facility, where his primary duty was to assess the healthcare system at the DC Jail.

A Ward 2 resident, Mr. Pitts received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from The College of the Holy Cross and a Master of Public Health from George Washington University.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

**To:** Lauren C. Vaughn, Steve Walker  
**From:** Betsy Cavendish  
**Date:** September 28, 2018  
**Subject:** Legal sufficiency review of Mayor's Order appointing Brian Sivak and reappointing Khalid Rasuli Pitts to the Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board

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**This is to Certify that** this office has reviewed the above-referenced Mayor's Order and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'.

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Elizabeth Cavendish