



MURIEL BOWSER

MAYOR

September 8, 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 4 of the Health Services Planning Program Re-Establishment Act of 1996, effective April 9, 1997 (D.C. 11-191; D.C. Official Code § 44-403), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Mr. Robert Brandon
Woodley Road NW
Washington, DC 20016
(Ward 3)


for appointment as a public member of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, replacing Goulda Downer, for a term to end February 11, 2023.

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

To confirm the appointment of Mr. Robert Brandon to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Statewide Health Coordinating Council Robert Brandon Confirmation Resolution of 2020".

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

Mr. Robert Brandon
Woodley Road NW
Washington, DC 20016
(Ward 3)

as a public member of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, pursuant to section 4 of the Health Services Planning Program Re-establishment Act of 1996, effective April 9, 1997 (D.C. 11-191; D.C. Official Code § 44-403), replacing Goulda Downer, for a term to end February 11, 2023.

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.



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

Robert Brandon



Mr. Brandon is an attorney with more than 35 years of public policy, legislative, media, and campaign experience at the federal, state, and local levels. He has been President of Robert M. Brandon and Associates, a public affairs firm that works to advance public interest and grassroots goals. Over the last ten years, he has specialized in health policy, tax policy, voting rights, affordability and access to higher education, consumer digital rights, and internet policy at federal agencies, in Congress, and at the state and local level. Mr. Brandon has also previously served on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) for over 10 years.

Mr. Brandon co-founded the Fair Elections Legal Network (FELN) in 2006 as a national, nonpartisan advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C. whose overall mission is to remove barriers to registration and voting for traditionally underrepresented constituencies and improve overall election administration through administrative, legal, and legislative reform. FELN was succeeded in 2017 by a stand alone 501 c-3 non-profit organization doing the same work as Fair Elections Center of which Mr. Brandon is President & CEO.

Mr. Brandon co-founded in 2001 and is the current Board Chair of A Greater Washington's Fields of Dreams, an after school and summer camp program operating in Ward 7 and 8 that has served over 3600 elementary school students.

He has been a senior consultant for Health Care for America Now, the major public interest coalition supporting the enactment of the Affordable Care Act and has served as a consultant for the National Association of Community Health Centers. He is currently a member of the steering committee of Americans for Tax Fairness and has served as a consultant to that group. He previously was a member of the SHCC, the federally mandated health planning agency for the District of Columbia from 2000-2018, and was its chair for 7 years. He was appointed in 2002 and has been reappointed by each successive Mayor. He has also been a member of the DC Workforce Investment Council. Mr. Brandon has been a Democratic National Committee consultant and advisor to the White House on health care strategy.

He has spoken and written about health policy and appeared on numerous radio and television shows discussing health policy. He has advised Best Health Care, Inc., a health management firm specializing in working with public sector providers serving the Medicaid population and the uninsured. Mr. Brandon has also been a member of DC Agenda's Health Planning Advisory Group and the Greater Washington Board of Trade Health Task Force.



CURRICULUM VITAE

Robert M. Brandon
3417 Woodley Road NW
Washington, DC 20016
(202) 331-1550 (O)
(202) 966-5333 (H)

EMPLOYMENT

August 1993 - Present. President of Robert M. Brandon & Associates. Brandon and Associates is a full-service public interest public affairs and strategic management firm. Mr. Brandon specializes in public affairs, strategic and organizational development and public policy analysis in policy areas including international legal reform, telecommunications, higher education access and affordability, transportation, utility regulation, healthcare, environmental policy, workforce development, regional planning, and international and business development. Mr. Brandon has extensive experience in media relations, coalition building, grass roots activity, strategic research, lobbying at the state and national level. Mr. Brandon also has extensive experience working with local, state, and national elected officials.

In 2006, Mr. Brandon co-founded and president of the *Fair Elections Legal Network*, a national, nonpartisan voting Rights and Election Reform Organization working proactively to remove legal impediments to voter participation and promote laws or administrative decisions that grant broader participation in voting for constituencies that typically face barriers to voting.

Mr. Brandon has worked with national groups such as the Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Public Interest Research Group (PIRG), and Internet companies such as Google and Yahoo and media access groups regarding telecommunications policy and open access to the Internet. Since 1996 the firm has helped build pro-competition, pro-consumer coalitions in 18 states and helped generate local and national press coverage of their activities. He has managed and coordinated numerous public education and legislative issue campaigns in areas as diverse as national health insurance, college affordability, telecommunications, domestic and international legal reform, transportation, environmental clean-up, utility company regulation, labor law, and right-to-know legislation.

Mr. Brandon has been involved in efforts to reform the delivery of health care for the last 30 years. In the mid 80's his organization was at the forefront of state level coalitions pushing for Medicaid expansion. He helped develop state level legislation aimed at providing universal health care. He was also a founder of the National HealthCare campaign – a project of the Villers Foundation (now Families USA) and he was acting Director of the Campaign until permanent staff were hired. In the early 90's, he helped develop a national single-payer health care program that was introduced in the Congress eventually gaining over 120 co-sponsors. As Washington Director of Citizen Action, he oversaw the development of a national grassroots campaign in support of universal health care access.

In 1993 and 1994, he was a consultant to the National Health Care Campaign (developed by the

DNC) and to the White House. He has spoken and written about health policy and appeared on numerous radio and television shows discussing health policy. He has advised Best Health Care, Inc., a health management firm specializing in working with public sector providers serving the Medicaid population and the uninsured. Mr. Brandon has also been a member of DC Agenda's Health Planning Advisory Group and the Greater Washington Board of Trade Health Task Force.

In 2002, he was appointed by Mayor Anthony Williams to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, the Commission responsible for developing the State Health Plan for the District of Columbia. He currently serves as its Chair having been reappointed several times.

He was also a founding member and strategic communications advisor of the Care First Coalition, a coalition looking into the issues surrounding the potential conversion to for-profit status of the area's Blue Cross Blue Shield organization.

Mr. Brandon From 2010 to 2015 he served as a consultant to the National Association of Community Health Centers and was a member of President Obama's Common Purpose Health Care Working Group.

From 2008 to 2010, Mr. Brandon was a consultant to Google's Washington DC Public Policy Office specializing in consumer and disability rights involving Internet and Broadband policy, privacy and copyright/fair use issues.

Mr. Brandon served as a senior consultant to Healthcare for America Now! working for passage of President Obama's Health Reform Initiative from 2008 to 2010 specializing in business and provider outreach.

From 2004-2009, Mr. Brandon coordinated the *Campaign for College Affordability*, helping to provide direction to over 20 participating organizations working to address the crisis in college access and affordability.

Mr. Brandon has promoted public interest law as a vital career or volunteer opportunity. His firm has utilized its considerable press contacts and conducted comprehensive media outreach to promote the significant expansion of the National Association for Public Interest Law's (now Equal Justice Works) Equal Justice Fellowship program.

Mr. Brandon has extensive experience in organizational development including a background in nonprofit corporation and tax laws, coalition structures, election law, membership development, fundraising, staff development, media relations and organizational promotion. He has helped develop a regional workforce project with the high tech industry in the Washington, DC area focusing on inner city students and low-skilled workers. Over the years, he has provided organizational expertise to more the 20 state non-profit organizations and a dozen national non-profit organizations. He has directed several national non-profits as well.

From 1995-1997, Mr. Brandon created and provided strategic direction to a USAID-funded legal reform project in the West Bank and Gaza. Brandon & Associates teamed with regional experts of AMIDEAST and pro bono lawyers from the US to promoting cooperation and understanding

between American lawyers and lawyers from the West Bank and Gaza to strengthen legal institutions and to establish a unified Palestinian Bar Association. The effort formed part of the broader regional goal of promoting civil society, the rule of law, and international investment in the emerging Palestinian State and peace in the Middle East.

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

January 1998-Present. Co-Founder and Executive Director, A Greater Washington Fields of Dreams. Responsible for the creation of communications, program development, fundraising strategy and organizational strategies for this regional business and civic alliance dedicated to facilitate cross-jurisdictional collaboration on vital issues that impact the welfare of the region. AGW also operates *Fields of Dreams*, an academic enrichment, values and baseball instruction after school program in six Washington DC Ward 6, 7 and 8 public schools modeled on Jackie Robinson's values.

September 1993 - December 1994. Campaign for an Environmental Economy. Advising National Coalition of over 20 national consumer, environmental, energy and public policy organizations on strategic issues related to environmental and energy issues, in particular, efficiency, renewable energy and conservation.

September 1993 - August 1994. Senior Advisor to the Democratic National Committee and the White House. Senior Policy Advisor to the National Health Care Campaign and an Advisor to the White House on Health Policy and Public Education Issues.

March 1986 - August 1993. Executive Director, Citizens Fund, Washington, D.C. Duties: Overall responsibility for organization including overseeing research projects and public education efforts. Liaison to media, policy makers and other organizations on projects involving health, energy and environmental policy.

January 1987 - August 1993. Vice-President and Political Director, Citizen Action, Washington, D.C. Responsible for Washington operations for three million member citizens organization including development of policy initiatives, lobbying strategy, electoral activities in 32 states, spokesperson duties and co-managing four million dollar budget. Coordination of state policy initiatives and lobbying activities of 25 state affiliates.

May 1979 - January 1987. Executive Director, Citizen-Labor Energy Coalition, Washington, D.C. Directed organization of 105 national, state and local organization involved in public policy in the field of energy and the environment.

January 1973 - November 1978. Executive Director, Public Citizen Tax Reform Research Group. Directed organization involved in tax policy analysis and public education on federal and state issues. Produced newsletter subscribed to by over 22,000 policymakers, journalists and academics.

May 1971 - October 1972. Director, Task Force on Drug Abuse, Washington, D.C. Research and public education organization focussed on the abuse and misuse of psychotropic drugs.

September 1975 - December 1976. Adjunct Lecturer in Law, The National Law Center of George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Taught classes in tax policy.

Additional Business Activities

Principal, Electronic Data Corporation

1989 - 1994. Principal, Massachusetts Beverage Journal

EDUCATION

J.D., The National Law Center, George Washington University, May 1972.

B.A., Syracuse University, The Maxwell School in International Relations, June 1969.

HONORS

Professional Membership, Bar Association of the District of Columbia

Member, George Washington University National Law Center Law Review 1971 -1972.

Academic Scholarship, George Washington University National Law Center, 1970 -1972.

Awarded *Order of the Coif* (Graduating Top 5% of Class), 1972.

Appointed to Commissioner's Advisory Group, Internal Revenue Service, 1977-1978.

Appointed to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council for the District of Columbia, 2002.

Member of Consumer Advisory Committee, American Bar Association Individual Rights Section;

Midwest Academy Training Institute

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Tax Politics (Pantheon Books, 1976).

Energy Policy: Challenge of the 80's (Citizen-Labor Energy Coalition, 1980).

Selected Articles and Reports

A Citizen's Guide To Right-to-Know, (Citizen Action, 1987).

"Curing Our Sickly Health Care System," *HealthSpan*, January, 1992.

"Premiums Without Benefits: Waste and Inefficiency in the Health Insurance Industry," *International Journal of Public Health* (1990).

"Seven Warning Signs: Health Insurance At Risk," (June, 1991).

"Spending More, Getting Less: A comparison of the Cost and Quality of Health Care in the United States and the World (April 1990)

Numerous other articles on health policy, tax policy, energy and environmental policy and organizing citizen involvement through public education.

TESTIMONY

Numerous appearances before Congressional Committees and State Legislative Committees on health policy, energy and environmental policy and tax policy.

MEDIA AND OTHER PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Appearances on numerous national television and radio shows including the Today Show, McNeil-Lerher, Crossfire, CBS Morning News, Fox Morning News, Donahue, Larry King, and Good Morning America to discuss public policy issues.

Speaking appearances at numerous national conferences on health, energy, tax and environmental issues.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Appointed member, Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Current Chair
Vice-Chair, Mayor Adrian Fenty Transition (2006); concentrated on health policy
Chair, Ward 3 Democratic Committee (2005-2006)
Elected Committeeman, Ward 3 Democratic Committee (2002-present)
Elected and re-elected Democratic State Committee Ward Three Committeeman (2008-present)
Member, Cleveland Park Citizens Association
Named "DC Father of the Year," by the DC Federation of Civic Associations (2000)
Member, Vincent Gray Education Transition Team
Member, DC Workforce Investment Council (2011- 2015)
Board President and co-founder, Fields of Dreams DC afterschool program (2001-present)

PERSONAL

Mr. Brandon has lived in the District 39 years, in three different wards. He is married to Nancy MacWood, former Chair and current member of ANC3C. He and Ms. MacWood have three daughters.