

June 26, 2023

Chairman Phil Mendelson
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

We thank you for your leadership in supporting the District of Columbia's working parents, our future workforce, and business community, by recognizing the importance of early care and education in securing DC's future. We are especially pleased at your ensuring there is sufficient funding in the Pay Equity Fund, honoring your commitment to ensuring early educators receive wages commensurate with their important work; expanding the child care subsidy so that 2,100 more working families can access quality care; and protecting other essential mental health and home visiting programs.

Thank you also for listening to and reading the many testimonies on early care and education from business leaders and others, meeting with local leaders, and hosting the June Public Roundtable, so that you can hear directly from early educators about their experiences. We appreciate your public support for this essential part of DC's infrastructure.

We look forward to working with you to fulfill the commitment to DC's working parents, our future leaders, and the educators who give them a great start.

Sincerely,

Gregory McCarthy, Senior Vice President for Community Engagement, Washington Nationals Baseball Club

William Alsup, Senior Managing Director, Hines (retired)

Leila Batties

Aisha Bond, Esq., President and CEO, Greater Washington DC Black Chamber of Commerce

Antwanye Ford, President and CEO, Enlightened, Inc.

Greater Washington DC Black Chamber of Commerce

Corey Griffin, President and CEO, Global Government and Industry Partners, LLC; Chairman of the Board, Greater Washington DC Black Chamber of Commerce

James Sandman, former Managing Partner, Arnold & Porter

Sandy Wilkes, Chairman, The Wilkes Company

Organizations listed for identification purposes only