

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

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FRIDAY

JUNE 26, 2026

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The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via videoconference, pursuant to notice at 9:30 a.m. EDT, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY THOMPSON, Chair
KARYN GREENFIELD, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

TERRI STROUD, General Counsel
MARISSA CORRENTE, Registrar of Voters

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (9:40 a.m.)

3 CHAIR THOMPSON: Good morning, I am
4 Chair Thompson and with me by Zoom is fellow
5 board member, Karyn Greenfield. We have a
6 special meeting this morning to address one
7 particular public initiative. We have a quorum.
8 We've looked at our agenda. At this time I'll
9 move we adopt that agenda.

10 MEMBER GREENFIELD: And I'll second it.

11 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. All in
12 favor?

13 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

14 CHAIR THOMPSON: Aye. And I will turn
15 it over to General Counsel Terri Stroud to walk
16 us through it.

17 MS. STROUD: Good morning, everyone.
18 So today what we are doing is we are issuing an
19 initiative petition form in support of the
20 District of Columbia Living Wage Amendment Act
21 of 2026. By way of background, on April 1st,
22 2026, the Board adopted the formulations for the

1 measure, which was approved as a proper subject
2 on March 4th. The formulations were published
3 in the DC Register on Friday, April 10th for a
4 10-day review period during which any registered
5 voter could challenge the Board's formulations
6 in the D.C. Superior Court, along with filing
7 any other objections that they might have had to
8 the measure, including whether or not it was
9 properly accepted by the Board as presenting a
10 proper subject for initiative. On April 20th,
11 the formulations for the measure were
12 challenged, as was the measure itself on proper
13 subject grounds and the Board's processing of
14 the measure.

15 On June 26th, the D.C. Superior Court
16 granted summary judgment in favor of the Board
17 and the proposer, who had intervened on all
18 counts, including finding that the formulations
19 prepared by the Board's Office of General
20 Counsel and adopted by the Board are legally
21 valid. As a result, the formulations are deemed
22 established in accordance with D.C. Official

1 Code § 1-1001.16(e).

2 I will now read the established
3 formulations for the measure as they were
4 published in the D.C. Register into the record,
5 and then I will ask for a motion to certify that
6 the formulations are established. I don't think
7 it's necessary for the Board to take a roll call
8 vote with respect to the certification that the
9 formulations are established, but out of an
10 abundance of caution, we will proceed in this
11 fashion.

12 First, I will read the short title and
13 summary statement for Initiative Measure No. 87.
14 The short title is the District of Columbia
15 Living Wage Amendment Act of 2026. The summary
16 statement reads as follows: If enacted, this
17 initiative would gradually increase the minimum
18 wage to \$25 per hour for eligible employees by
19 July 1st, 2029, and gradually eliminate the
20 credit for tips received by tipped workers. The
21 tipped minimum wage for tipped workers
22 (currently 10 dollars per hour indexed to

1 inflation), would gradually increase until July
2 1st, 2031, when the base wage for tipped workers
3 would match the regular minimum wage (currently
4 17 dollars and 95 cents per hour, proposed to
5 increase to 25 dollars per hour by July 1st,
6 2029, and thereafter indexed to inflation).

7 Service charges collected from
8 customers by employers of tipped workers will
9 belong to employees. Again, the Court ruled
10 that the Board's formulations were legally
11 valid, and they will appear on the appropriate
12 materials with respect to this processing of the
13 measure.

14 With that, I recommend that the Board
15 move to certify that the formulations are
16 established under D.C. Official Code § 1-
17 1001.16(e).

18 CHAIR THOMPSON: The Chair so moves.

19 MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second.

20 MS. STROUD: Okay and with that, we'll
21 take a roll call vote. Mr. Chair?

22 CHAIR THOMPSON: Aye.

1 MS. STROUD: Member Greenfield?

2 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

3 MS. STROUD: And with that, the Board
4 has certified that the formulations are
5 established. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code §
6 1-1001.16(g), upon final establishment of the
7 summary statement, short title, and legislative
8 form of an initiative or referendum proposal,
9 the Board shall prepare and provide to the
10 proposer at a public meeting an original
11 petition form, which the proposer shall formally
12 adopt as his or her own form.

13 Now, we will provide the proposer with
14 the petition form and ask if they formally adopt
15 the petition, which includes the established
16 formulations as their own. And I think -- can
17 you see the participants again so we can bring
18 Ms. Kalinda and her counsel up? I see Ash
19 Kalinda. If you promote her to panelist as well
20 as Mr. Hurwitz.

21 Ms. Kalinda, Mr. Russ is going to email
22 you the petition which includes the

1 formulations, and it is a standard template that
2 is used to collect signatures. He is about to
3 email that to you.

4 MS. KALINDA: That sounds good. Thank
5 you.

6 MS. STROUD: Okay. Sorry for the
7 delay. If you could let us know once you
8 receive it and review it and let us know whether
9 you adopt the petition as your own for purposes
10 of circulation.

11 MS. KALINDA: Okay, received and
12 reviewing now.

13 MS. STROUD: Okay. Thank you.

14 MS. KALINDA: Okay. Yeah, it all looks
15 good.

16 MS. STROUD: Okay and so you are
17 stating that you formally adopt the petition as
18 your own?

19 MS. KALINDA: Yes, I formally adopt the
20 petition as my own.

21 MS. STROUD: Okay and with that, the
22 proposer has formally adopted the initiative

1 measure as her own. With that, I will have our
2 Registrar of Voters, Marissa Corrente, read her
3 memo regarding the circulation of the petition
4 into the record.

5 MS. CORRENTE: Good morning, everyone.

6 This memo is titled Initiative Measure No. 87,
7 District of Columbia Living Wage Amendment Act
8 of 2026. With the preparation of the petition
9 form, it is important to note that in order for
10 the measure to be placed on the ballot, the
11 petition submitted in support of Initiative
12 Measure No. 87, District of Columbia Living Wage
13 Amendment Act of 2026 must contain the valid
14 signatures of at least 5 percent of registered
15 District of Columbia voters, provided that this
16 total includes 5 percent of the registered
17 voters in at least five of the eight wards.

18 Pursuant to D.C. Official Code 1-
19 204.102(a), the number of registered voters used
20 to compute these requirements is, "the latest
21 official count of registered voters by the Board
22 of Elections, which was issued 30 or more days

1 prior to the submission of signatures." While
2 the signature requirement cannot be determined
3 yet, see Title 3 DCMR 1003.3, the current
4 calculations using the published May 31st, 2026
5 monthly voter registration statistics are as
6 follows. And then I provide a table that has
7 the breakdown, which I won't go into, but I will
8 be emailing this over to you, Ms. Kalinda, so
9 you'll see the breakdown.

10 Overall for the entire District, the
11 count is at 481,148, and so the 5 percent of
12 required voters is 24,057 signatures of
13 registered voters. The proposer is advised to
14 check with the Board on a monthly basis as new
15 statistics are issued to get up-to-date
16 estimates of the signature requirement. In
17 addition, assuming that the proposer formally
18 adopts the original petition, which obviously
19 just happened, the 180-day period for
20 circulating the petition pursuant to D.C.
21 Official Code 1-1001.16(j)(1) expires on
22 Wednesday, December 23rd, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

1 The Board will send the following
2 documents to the proposer at their email address
3 of record after the board meeting concludes: A
4 PDF of the petition, this memorandum, and a
5 secure link to various ballot access handouts
6 and forms. It is the duty of the proposer to
7 ensure that when the petition is printed, the
8 formatting matches the original document, which
9 for an initiative petition is on 8.5 by 11-inch
10 paper. The proposer is also responsible for
11 adhering and ensuring that all parties connected
12 to their efforts adhere to the pertinent rules,
13 regulations, and laws.

14 MS. STROUD: Ms. Kalinda or Mr.
15 Hurwitz, do you have any questions?

16 MS. CORRENTE: Okay, and just --

17 MR. HURWITZ: I have no questions.

18 MS. CORRENTE: Okay, thank you.

19 MEMBER GREENFIELD: As the registrar of
20 voters indicated, you have 180 days to circulate
21 the petition. We understand that the proposer
22 is going to attempt to meet the deadline for the

1 submission of signatures for the November
2 election. Since that is the expressed intent of
3 the circulator, the latest official count, were
4 you to try to meet that deadline, would be the
5 statistics that were published in the month of
6 April, the statistics that were published in the
7 April DC Register, which would have been --

8 MS. CORRENTE: So, yeah, it's the end
9 of April statistics which was published the
10 third Friday in May. So that's 30 days out from
11 July 6th, based on the D.C. regulations. So
12 you're looking at the end of April statistics,
13 not the May ones that were in this memo, since
14 you're trying to do it quicker than six months.

15 MS. STROUD: Okay. If there are no
16 questions --

17 MS. CORRENTE: Could I also just add,
18 if we're adding caveats too, because it's a busy
19 time of year and we have a lot going on and
20 staffing and spacing we need to be cognizant of,
21 you will need to email me as soon as possible to
22 set an appointment to file your petition.

1 You can't just kind of -- well, you can
2 try to walk in, but if we don't have the staff
3 to accommodate a large number of sheets, you
4 know, we want to make sure that we're adequately
5 ready to support a filing. We ask usually for a
6 week's notice. When I email you, just email me
7 back and let me know what day specifically
8 you're thinking about coming in. Thank you.

9 MS. STROUD: Okay, and with that, Mr.
10 Chair, I have no further business.

11 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right, best of
12 luck with your efforts, proposers. Hearing no
13 other business, I move that we adjourn, and I
14 wish everybody a fabulous Friday and a weekend
15 ahead.

16 MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second.

17 CHAIR THOMPSON: And also --

18 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Oops, sorry.

19 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah. Also happy
20 tenth day from election day. Today's our last
21 day to receive mail ballots, I believe.

22 MEMBER GREENFIELD: That is correct.

1 Mm-hmm.

2 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Okay, I
3 think I heard a second. Okay.

4 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yes.

5 CHAIR THOMPSON: All in favor, aye.

6 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

7 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thanks.

8 MS. KALINDA: Thank you.

9 MS. CORRENTE: Thank you.

10 MR. HURWITZ: Thank you, everyone.

11 MS. STROUD: Have a great weekend.

12 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Okay. You all too.

13 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
14 went off the record at 9:54 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this action in which this matter was taken; and further that I am not a relative nor an employee of any of the parties nor counsel employed by the parties, and I am not financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.



Evan Weatherby

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