

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

+ + + + +

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

+ + + + +

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 23, 2023

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Video/Teleconference, pursuant to notice at 10:30 a.m. EDT, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

- GARY THOMPSON, Chair
- KARYN GREENFIELD, Member
- J.C. BOGGS, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

- TERRI STROUD, General Counsel

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

2 10:33 a.m.

3 CHAIR THOMPSON: Hello, everybody.
4 Good morning. Hopefully you can hear me okay.
5 I'll try to keep my voice up. My name is Gary
6 Thompson, the Chair of the Board of Elections.
7 With us today are my fellow board members,
8 Karyn Greenfield and J.C. Boggs. All three of
9 us are here, so we have a quorum.

10 We have a pretty simple agenda
11 today. It's a special session to discuss the
12 adoption of a short title and the summary
13 statement and the legislative form for voter
14 initiative measure number 83. I would move the
15 agenda. Is there a second?

16 MS. GREENFIELD: Second.

17 CHAIR THOMPSON: All in favor say,
18 aye.

19 (Chorus of aye.)

20 CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. That's our
21 whole agenda. We'll commence. Just to set the
22 table a little bit, as I think everybody here

1 probably knows, but just in case you don't, our
2 board already considered and ruled upon the
3 issue of whether the proposed voter initiative
4 is a proper subject matter under D.C. law. We
5 ruled in the affirmative that it is a proper
6 subject matter for voter's initiative and gave
7 the green light for ballot access. We issued a
8 written ruling as well, and that's, of course,
9 all been made public. Once again, as I said
10 last time, our board has not and does not and
11 does not mean to comment on the merits of the
12 voter's initiative. We're not ever meaning to
13 say the voters should vote yes or should vote
14 not, that's going to be for the voters to
15 decide. And that's really at the core of our
16 job today, which is to discuss and confirm a
17 short title and summary statement. Something
18 that's obviously as neutral and independent as
19 it can be, informative enough to let the voters
20 understand what they're voting on but not
21 overly wordy. And we, of course, are well
22 aware of our statutory and regulatory guidance

1 in that regard, especially DC Code Section 1-
2 1001.16, sub C, that our job is to, quote,
3 prepare a true and impartial summary statement
4 written in plain language, et cetera. Such
5 statements shall not intentionally create
6 prejudice for or against the measure. So
7 that's our job.

8 So what we issued in connection with
9 the notice for this meeting (audio
10 interference) draft, short title, and summary
11 statement. There's been an opportunity for
12 members of the public to submit written
13 comments in advance. We've received some very
14 thoughtful and detailed suggestions from the
15 proposer, Ms. Lisa Rice, with Make All Votes
16 Count, D.C. We've received one email.

17 What we'll do is, well, first, I'll
18 ask General Counsel Terri Stroud to comment.
19 But then we'll hear from the proposer. We'll
20 make note of the email comment. Later we'll
21 open the floor to comment from everybody that's
22 here. With that, I would ask Terri Stroud to

1 please comment.

2 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 As the Chair already stated, the Board issued a
4 written order on July 25, and that order
5 reflected the Board's determination that the
6 proposed measure met proper subject
7 requirements. Accordingly, the Board is here
8 today to formulate the short title and summary
9 statement for the measure. The Board put the
10 legislative text provided into the proper
11 legislative form. And I just want to say at
12 the onset that we did correct some numbering
13 errors that were in the notice of today's
14 meeting. So that's been corrected. The
15 sections are now numbered appropriately.

16 My office prepared draft language,
17 which was included as a part of the notice of
18 today's meeting and as the Chair noted, we did
19 receive some feedback from the proposer as well
20 as another member of the public.

21

22 So what we're going to do today is

1 to work using the draft that was prepared by
2 the Office of the General Counsel as a baseline
3 from which to work. So we'll do that in real
4 time during the meeting. After adoption we
5 will notify the proposer of the measure via
6 email and, of course, the proposer is here
7 today, as I can see on the Zoom, of the
8 formulations, and they will be published in at
9 least one newspaper of general circulation, on
10 the Board's website, and in the D.C. Register.
11 The publication in the D.C. Register, which
12 will take place on Friday, September 1, will
13 launch a 10 day period during which any
14 registered voter who objects to the
15 formulations may seek review in the Superior
16 Court of D.C. stating objections and requesting
17 appropriate changes. The voters may also file
18 objections regarding the initiative with the
19 court on other grounds during this period
20 including the Board's determination that the
21 proposed measure presents a proper subject for
22 initiative. That 10 day period will end on

1 September 11. So I just wanted to put that on
2 the record so that people can be aware of that
3 10 day period, which will commence on Friday,
4 September 1 because that is when the
5 formulations will be published in the D.C.
6 Register.

7 With that, we're going to share the
8 screen so that everyone can see the
9 formulations that were proposed, or drafted,
10 and these formulations are what was published
11 in the D.C. Register, and that is what we're
12 working with today.

13 CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you
14 very much. I think with that I think we would
15 commence with the proposer, Lisa Rice, or her
16 counsel, Joseph Sandler. I don't know who
17 wants to speak and lead us through their
18 suggestions.

19 MS. RICE: Hi, good morning. I just
20 had to unmute myself. Thank you for this time
21 this morning. As you mentioned, I submitted
22 written comments, and I just want to highlight

1 a few, I'm not going to read the entire note
2 that I sent, about the short title.

3 The main concern that I have is the
4 use of that phrase, semi-closed. It's not
5 really well understood by the general public
6 and doesn't reflect the intent of the ballot
7 measure. The term for unaffiliated voters
8 that's most recognized and understood by the
9 general public is independent voters. And so
10 we're recommending that the short title be
11 amended to Ranked Choice Voting and Open the
12 Primary Elections to Independent Voters Act of
13 2024. I'll repeat that. Ranked Choice Voting
14 and Open the Primary Elections to Independent
15 Voters Act of 2024. I do have an alternative
16 suggestion and that would be Ranked Choice
17 Voting and Expanding Primary Election Access to
18 Independent Voters Act of 2024.

19 We're providing these two short
20 titles because we just don't feel use of the
21 term semi-closed accurately reflects the intent
22 of the ballot measure, nor does it make sure

1 that the general public understands what the
2 measure does in order to make an informed
3 choice. Semi-closed, closed just does not
4 sound welcoming and it's not what we're doing.
5 We're not closing anything, we're opening.

6 Also, about the summary statement.
7 We just have some concern about the order of
8 the bullet points as presented. We'd like to
9 suggest moving the funding clause to the very
10 beginning, and that way voters understand that
11 this is about two things that need to happen.
12 Number one, the ballot measure needs to be
13 enacted by voters. Number two, the ballot
14 measure needs to be funded by the D.C. Council.
15 So we suggest reversing the order of the two
16 bullet points.

17 Finally, we think the voters would
18 benefit from understanding the ballot measure
19 doesn't permit unlimited ranking of candidates,
20 rather it's up to five rankings. So we think
21 that ranking in order of preference is not
22 wording that's necessarily clear to everyday

1 voters who usually think in terms of
2 enumerating their choices. First choice,
3 second choice, et cetera. So we want to add
4 that crucial piece of information to the
5 summary statement.

6 So, combined, what we'd end up with
7 is, if enacted and projected costs are funded
8 by the D.C. Council the initiative would, and
9 the first bullet point is, Implement ranked
10 choice voting to allow voters to rank their
11 preferred candidates (up to five choices) in
12 each contest for any office (other than
13 political party offices) with three or more
14 qualified candidates; and second bullet point,
15 Permit voters who are not registered with a
16 political party to choose to participate in the
17 primary election of their choosing for all
18 offices (other than political party offices).

19 And that's it for me at this point.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR THOMPSON: Thank you very
22 much, Ms. Rice. Those are very thoughtful

1 comments. When I sat down myself to go through
2 this I spotted almost all the same issues. So
3 when I saw your memo it really overlapped with
4 what drew my attention.

5 Mr. Sandler, would you like to
6 supplement that?

7 MR. SANDLER: Just to say, thank
8 you, Mr. Chairman, that the terms open primary,
9 semi-closed, closed primary are used by lawyers
10 and political scientists. I've litigated these
11 cases myself in the National Democratic Party.
12 But even the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court
13 don't agree among themselves on what these
14 terms mean and not using them consistently. So
15 just to emphasize that sort of as a matter of
16 plain, you know, the average voter just
17 understanding what this is about, we would
18 respectfully urge the use of the term either
19 open the primary elections or expand the
20 primary elections to independent voters just to
21 state it in plain English. Thank you.

22 CHAIR THOMPSON: Just a quick

1 question on that. Maybe something that might
2 work that isn't weighted in any way would be to
3 call it the Ranked Choice Voting and Partially
4 Open Primaries Act of 2024. I suggest that
5 because I think in common discussion people
6 generally talk about open primaries. In
7 Virginia they have open primaries, and that's a
8 commonly used phrase that isn't, I think,
9 wedded to a technical definition. And then
10 modifying it with the word partially is maybe a
11 neutral description that is then given more
12 detail when you get down to the summary
13 statement and it's then described. Do you
14 think that would be sufficient? I say that
15 also because maybe it's a little too wordy to
16 have that longer phrase, Open the Primary
17 Elections to Independent Voters Act.

18 MR. SANDLER: Well, again, the term
19 partial is also somewhat opaque for somebody
20 just looking at this. If there was a way to
21 just say what it means may be worth the extra
22 words in terms of that it is opening the

1 primary to independent voters we think would be
2 more precise, accurate, and easily
3 understandable.

4 CHAIR THOMPSON: Thank you. In fact
5 --

6 MS. GREENFIELD: Mr. Chairman, this
7 is Karyn, can I say?

8 CHAIR THOMPSON: Please, yeah.

9 MS. GREENFIELD: The concern I have
10 with the independent voters is independent is a
11 party and is this going to read to people that
12 we've now opened it to only independents?
13 That's my concern. That was my concern with
14 the use of the term independent voter. That
15 will cause another level of confusion, so I
16 would not like use of the word independent
17 voters only because people could read it as
18 Open the Primary Election to Independents and
19 not mean unaffiliated voters but mean those
20 affiliated with the Independent party. That's
21 my concern.

22 MR. SANDLER: Maybe unaffiliated is

1 better.

2 MR. STREGE: I have a comment if I
3 may, if everyone can hear me.

4 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes, I was going to
5 call on you, Commissioner, from your email
6 comment. Why don't you chime in there? Thank
7 you.

8 MR. STREGE: Yeah, I would weight in
9 and just say that I think it's probably best to
10 avoid terms such as semi-closed, semi-open, and
11 partially open altogether, simply because if
12 you say something like partially open, if a
13 voter isn't informed, they may think that we
14 currently have fully open, and it may imply
15 that we're restricting it in some way, which is
16 why I was encouraging a title that would be
17 directionally correct. Expanding primary
18 access is pretty unarguable, that's what this
19 does, it's increasing the franchise, it's
20 bringing more people into the franchise, and
21 the summary statement would be what defines who
22 it's being expanded to. But if you get into

1 the nuances of semi-closed, things like that,
2 the definitions are not well understood, and
3 they're not really well defined depending on
4 who you ask. I would just encourage avoiding
5 using any of those terms altogether.

6 If you did want to use the word
7 open, I would encourage the word opening for
8 the same reason, it speaks to the direction of
9 the initiative. It's opening the franchise
10 rather than restricting it, which is why the
11 title that I suggested was Expanding Primary
12 Access and left it at that.

13 MR. BOGGS: Thanks for that. A
14 couple comments. One, I think the Office of
15 General Counsel did a great job at putting this
16 together. It reads well, it's fairly simple.
17 But, Gary, I shared some of your, as I read
18 through it, some questions in my mind. The
19 easy one I'll take, I think it makes a lot of
20 sense to reverse A and B and start with Ranked
21 Choice Voting in the title. Why not start with
22 A on that and the second part is Semi-Closed

1 Primaries Act. So just switch those around,
2 again, it just makes sense.

3 I liked the idea of a simple title.
4 It seems very verbose. Some of the ways we're
5 going I get the closed versus open, so I like
6 the idea of opening or expanding in there, if
7 we can tweak that a little bit but try to keep
8 it short. I wondered almost if I were, well, I
9 am in the public, but resubmit it as two
10 separate initiatives instead of one combined it
11 might be simpler. But it is what it is, and
12 think there are some tweaks here that folks
13 have brought up and makes some sense.

14 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Yeah,
15 thanks. Why don't we cover the easy stuff
16 first? I agree that we should switch the order
17 of A and B to track the order of the title, the
18 short title. Karyn, are you okay with that as
19 well?

20 MS. GREENFIELD: Yes. Yeah, I agree
21 with that. That lines up.

22 CHAIR THOMPSON: Also, I think it

1 was suggested that we use bullet points instead
2 of A and B, but I think A and B are appropriate
3 because they clearly delineate between what
4 really are two separate things that could be
5 two different initiatives but are packaged
6 together here. I favor the way it's drafted is
7 both A and B just switching the order of A and
8 B as we have it. J.C., are you good with that?

9 MR. BOGGS: Yes.

10 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-hmm.

11 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. That
12 covers the easy stuff. Before we dive in a
13 little bit deeper, let me ask for comment from
14 anybody else that's there. Just raise your
15 hand and just let us know you'd like to
16 comment. Okay. I don't see any hands coming
17 up. There's Nikolas Schiller, if he could be
18 unmuted. Let us know your thoughts. Hello.

19 MR. SCHILLER: Hello. Good to see
20 you. Thank you everyone for having a special
21 meeting today. Going back, I think A and B,
22 this wasn't addressed. With respect to what

1 Lisa suggested, having the concluding clause
2 being neither A or B, being incorporated into
3 the opening clause. If enacted and projected
4 cost funded by the D.C. Council, this
5 initiative would both, is that any discussion
6 on that point about combining this -- A and B
7 makes it read as if they're two independent
8 pieces of legislation, but when routed, there
9 are two reforms in one law, not two laws with
10 one reform. So making bullet points as two
11 separate and combining the concluding clause to
12 the first, because it really says that there
13 are two things that need to be done, first it
14 needs to be enacted, which means the voters
15 pass it. B, the Council has to take action to
16 fund it. Once those two are done, then the two
17 bullet points would then be able to manifest.
18 So it seems more straightforward to the voter
19 that you take out the A and the B because
20 having them independent clauses almost implies
21 that they're two independent things but in
22 reality one law will be transferred to Congress

1 if it's enacted by voters, not two different
2 laws. That's my comment. Thank you.

3 CHAIR THOMPSON: Thanks. We'll get
4 to those two things. Any other comment out
5 there before we deliberate live?

6 MS. GREENFIELD: This is Karyn, I
7 have one more. More of a question than a
8 comment just for clarity for the voters. When
9 we say implement Ranked Choice Voting to allow
10 voters to rank candidates. When I read that,
11 me as a voter would think I don't have to. I
12 can just vote one candidate for each of the
13 races, and my vote will count, I don't have to
14 rank anybody else if I don't want to, but those
15 who want to can rank, and then when you go
16 through the ranked voting their additional
17 rankings will count. Is that correct? Because
18 if it's not we're not allowing voters to rank
19 candidates.

20 MS. RICE: It's correct, Ms.
21 Greenfield. That's correct. As a voter you
22 make your choice of how many candidates you

1 want to rank, and if it's just one, that's your
2 choice.

3 CHAIR THOMPSON: And I, related to
4 that, I favor this edit that Ms. Rice
5 suggested, in that exact language, to add the
6 parenthetical up to five choices. That helps
7 clarify there could be one, there could be
8 five, or something in between.

9 MS. RICE: Yes, yeah.

10 MR. GREENBERG: I think that's
11 inserted right after preferred candidates.

12 MR. STREGE: Yeah, I would echo that
13 adding up to five is important. It's pretty
14 standard, but there are some jurisdictions that
15 do six. Maine is one of them, for example.

16 CHAIR THOMPSON: Well, actually I
17 guess the suggested edit is, implement ranked
18 choice voting to allow voters to rank their
19 preferred candidates, up to five choices, it's
20 a little, well, sorry, I'm kind of doing this
21 in real time. It's kind of completely
22 reworded. Maybe the way it is, is fine --

1 according to their preference in each contest
2 for any office. It's just re-written to say.

3 MR. STREGE: You could just put, up
4 to five between rank and candidates. So
5 implement ranked choice voting to allow voters
6 to rank up to five candidates.

7 MR. BOGGS: Instead of the paren.

8 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah, that works
9 for me.

10 MS. GREENFIELD: Okay. So.

11 MR. STREGE: So, yeah, I guess
12 remove the parenthetical and put it between
13 rank and candidate, up to five candidates. One
14 is still up to five if you choose to rank one.

15 CHAIR THOMPSON: To rank up to five
16 candidates according to their preference in
17 each contest for any office other than
18 political party offices.

19 MR. STREGE: Yeah, that seems to
20 make sense.

21 MS. RICE: So I'd like to -- are we
22 still working on this? Because I do want to go

1 back to the independent language.

2 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah, so there's
3 that language in A that we just addressed. I
4 still favor using A and B. I don't think that
5 implies there is two separate laws. It's one
6 voters' initiative, one law that does two very
7 distinct things. I mean, I heard the concern,
8 but I still favor saying both A and B.

9 MS. RICE: I think adding and does
10 what we need.

11 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-hmm.

12 CHAIR THOMPSON: And then, in terms
13 of the modifier, which we've talked about, at
14 the very end we say neither A nor B would be
15 implemented unless the D.C. Council separately
16 chooses to appropriate funds for the projected
17 cost. I kind of lean towards keeping it at the
18 end, but I don't feel strongly about that.
19 Karyn and J.C., what do you think?

20 MR. BOGGS: I like it where it is.

21 (Simultaneous speaking.)

22 MR. BOGGS: -- what the bill --

1 sorry, the initiative does, A and B, and then
2 secondarily, doesn't happen unless it gets
3 funded.

4 Karyn, I'm sorry.

5 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah, I'm trying to
6 think because it is true that for it to be
7 implemented it needs to be enacted and funded.
8 I mean, once it gets voted on it then needs to
9 be funded. I'm trying to think. I kind of
10 like the one up front because it tells them
11 right up front, if enacted and if the money is
12 funded, then what the initiative would both do.
13 If they vote it through does it get enacted?
14 It's just an unfunded initiative basically or
15 and unfunded law, or does it not get enacted at
16 all. Is it not enacted until funded? I know
17 we can implement it until it is, but it's still
18 in there saying that's what we could do, it's
19 just waiting for money.

20 MR. BOGGS: How would that read? If
21 enacted and incorporated by the D.C. Council --

22 (Simultaneous speaking.)

1 MS. GREENFIELD: They both say,
2 because they both explain the same thing, it
3 just puts it more up front when they're looking
4 at what it does.

5 Yeah, both says it. To me, both
6 explains that it has to be funded.

7 Yeah, I would agree with you. I
8 would just leave it as neither A nor B would be
9 implemented.

10 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah, I think it's
11 good the way it is. Because if it's enacted,
12 the voters vote yes, then it's enacted, but
13 it's not implemented unless the D.C. Council
14 separately chooses to appropriate funds for the
15 projected cost which, I think you kind of need
16 all those words to really get across the point
17 that this is not in any way requiring the D.C.
18 Council to fund this, which is important to it
19 being a proper subject matter. The necessary
20 sort of shortening of the phrase to put it at
21 the outset instead of at the end kind of loses
22 some of that description. So I think I like it

1 better at the end the way it is.

2 MR. BOGGS: Let me go back to
3 paragraph A. It still seems like -- I like
4 what we did, it still seems like a long
5 sentence.

6 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah.

7 (Simultaneous speaking.)

8 MR. BOGGS: -- each contest for any
9 office other than political party offices with
10 three or more qualified candidates. Do we need
11 the with three or more qualified candidates?
12 What happens when you have two?

13 MR. SCHILLER: I mean, technically
14 two is just one round of ranked choice voting.
15 I mean, it's mathematically the same.

16 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah. If there's
17 two, if you only vote for one you definitely
18 put the other one as second.

19 MR. SCHILLER: Yeah.

20 MR. BOGGS: Is it necessary to even,
21 it just seems like up to five and then with
22 three or more. Kind of simplify it but make it

1 accurate.

2 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah.

3 MR. SCHILLER: Yeah. What you're
4 going to have to do anyway when you go to rule
5 making is you're going to have to restrict the
6 number of ranked choice bubbles to the number
7 of candidates minus one. So if you had three
8 candidates you wouldn't be having five bubbles
9 for first, second, third, fourth, fifth. So in
10 the case where there's two candidates you're
11 only going to have one bubble anyway because
12 it's two minus one. So I think you can
13 probably remove that.

14 MR. BOGGS: So other than political
15 party offices, end paren, period. Or semicolon
16 and.

17 CHAIR THOMPSON: I agree it's
18 implied, it's necessarily the case.

19 MS. GREENFIELD: And do we, yeah.

20 CHAIR THOMPSON: It's confusing with
21 the five and the three because, what if there's
22 four, you know.

1 MR. SCHILLER: Yeah.

2 CHAIR THOMPSON: Up to five tells
3 you this is going to be something that will be
4 utilized if there are three or more.

5 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-hmm.

6 MR. STREGE: You can't rank five if
7 there aren't five candidates.

8 MS. GREENFIELD: And do we need to
9 say up to five qualified candidates? Do we
10 need that word qualified in or not? We had it
11 below, I didn't know if we needed it above. We
12 had it when we said three or more.

13 MS. RICE: Do we assume if they're
14 on the ballot that they're qualified?

15 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah.

16 CHAIR THOMPSON: I guess you could
17 write in a candidate for ranked choice voting
18 too, can't you?

19 MR. SCHILLER: It allows for one,
20 yeah.

21 MS. GREENFIELD: Okay.

22 MR. BOGGS: After and there will be

1 a comma, not a period?

2 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-mmm. Oh, yeah,
3 it would not be a period.

4 MS. STROUD: That should be deleted,
5 it shows up as deleted on my screen.

6 MS. GREENFIELD: Okay.

7 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah.

8 MR. BOGGS: I see. Okay.

9 MR. SCHILLER: I just wanted to
10 bring up that the neither A nor B part, that to
11 me still has a little bit of bias. It's a
12 negative component as opposed to a positive. I
13 just have a problem with neither A nor B. It
14 sounds like there's two separate laws here when
15 there's one law. I just have to reiterate
16 that. You could say this initiative would not
17 be implemented unless the D.C. Council chooses
18 to appropriate funds. I think the neither A
19 nor B, to me, it's confusing as a voter. But
20 what it's essentially saying it, this
21 initiative would not be implemented unless.
22 You're going to go down that path.

1 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah. Thank you
2 for that. That's a good suggestion.

3 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah. My next
4 question was, does it have to all be funded in
5 order to do it? So we get funding so we can do
6 the primaries, but we don't have enough funding
7 to do the ranked choice. That means neither
8 gets implemented until we fund all.

9 MR. SANDLER: Correct.

10 MR. STREGE: That's a good idea,
11 then, this initiative here.

12 MR. GREENBERG: Yeah.

13 CHAIR THOMPSON: Terri, if you could
14 make that edit.

15 MS. STROUD: Yep.

16 CHAIR THOMPSON: I think that covers
17 everything except the title. I think our
18 choices are one, we could call it partially-
19 open primaries. Partially-open does have a
20 technical definition through some organizations
21 and website, although, open primaries is a
22 phrase that's commonly used. Another option

1 would be to accept what Ms. Rice suggested with
2 a slight modification and call it the Ranked
3 Choice Voting and Open the Primary Elections to
4 Unaffiliated Voters Act of 2024 to address
5 Karyn's point that independent is not the right
6 word. So what are your --

7 MR. BOGGS: The two other things I
8 heard out there was to replace semi-closed with
9 either expanding or opening primaries act of
10 2024.

11 MR. STREGGE: Can you all see the
12 text in Zoom? I could just cut and paste the
13 two that we seem to be talking about.

14 MS. RICE: I would like the Chairman
15 to go back because we're talking about two
16 things. One is inserting that verb or the
17 gerund, either open or opening. But the other
18 thing is, and I'd like to talk about, Ms.
19 Greenfield, an independent. An independent is
20 not a recognized party in D.C. So do you feel
21 that people are going to infer that independent
22 is actually a recognized party in D.C.?

1 MS. GREENFIELD: That's my concern.

2 MS. RICE: Would having independent
3 followed in parenthesis by unaffiliated help?

4 MR. STREGE: Or a slash, maybe.

5 MS. RICE: Who was that?

6 MR. STREGE: That was me. Sorry.

7 MS. RICE: Brian, please let me have
8 this conversation.

9 MR. STREGE: Sure, sure.

10 MS. RICE: Thank you. So that's
11 what I was saying, Ms. Greenfield. So would
12 independent followed by unaffiliated in parens
13 help with that clarification, do you think?

14 MS. GREENFIELD: If we put it in
15 parents, then we're defining independent as
16 unaffiliated, so then why wouldn't we just say
17 unaffiliated.

18 MS. RICE: Not sure if you would
19 just say independent.

20 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah.

21 MR. BOGGS: Well, it's called a
22 short title for a reason. I just -- I'd like

1 to keep it simple and then elaborate A or B
2 below.

3 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah. If it's
4 saying partially-open that's really short, and
5 if that's all you ever saw I agree it would be
6 a head scratcher. But because the summary
7 statement then described exactly what that
8 means to permit any voter who is not registered
9 with a political party to vote in the primary
10 election of that voter's choosing for all
11 offices. I mean, that describes what that
12 means to say partially-open.

13 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah. I'm not
14 sure, one thing I do kind of agree with Brian
15 on is I don't think it describes what we're
16 moving from and to.

17 MR. SANDLER: Right.

18 MS. GREENFIELD: So if I'm a voter,
19 I agree semi-closed is not clear. Partially-
20 open, I may not know if that means now they're
21 going from open to partially-open, because I
22 may not know what the definitions are. That

1 was the only thing I was thinking. I kind of
2 like the expanding access, and maybe we say
3 expanding primary access.

4 MR. BOGGS: Yeah, expending primary
5 access or opening primary, more active tense.

6 CHAIR THOMPSON: Somebody put in the
7 comments a good point. The voters registration
8 form itself says that no party is a, quote,
9 independent voter.

10 MR. SANDLER: Yeah.

11 CHAIR THOMPSON: And that's a pretty
12 commonly used word, independent. Almost has
13 the ability to start sounding kind of
14 technical.

15 MR. SANDLER: Yeah.

16 CHAIR THOMPSON: Was it too many
17 words to say Open the Primary Elections to
18 Independent Voters Act?

19 MS. RICE: No. I think that, though
20 it looks like the Ranked Choice Voting and Open
21 the Primary Elections to Independent Voters Act
22 of 2024, I think that's 14, yeah, that's 14

1 letters. The first suggested title. So what
2 was your exact language, Gary?

3 CHAIR THOMPSON: I don't know if
4 we're all okay with this, but go ahead and type
5 it in. Open the Primary Elections to
6 Independent Voters Act, instead of semi-closed
7 primaries. Yeah.

8 MS. GREENFIELD: That's 14.

9 CHAIR THOMPSON: That is literally
10 correct. It would open the primary elections
11 to independent voters.

12 MS. GREENFIELD: And I think that
13 open is neutral because right now I think that
14 everyone would agree that the status quo is
15 that the primaries are closed, and then open
16 suggests that change is occurring, and with the
17 B clause that sort of describes how we're
18 changing. So I think that's probably better
19 than expanding.

20 MR. BOGGS: I'm good with that.

21 CHAIR THOMPSON: Let's try this.
22 Why don't I just make a motion just so it's

1 clear on the record? I would move that all
2 these redline edits that we see on our screen
3 here be accepted.

4 MR. BOGGS: Can we look at the
5 funding language again? The last line?

6 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah, and then I
7 wanted to see it clean without the red lines
8 because it's getting kind of confusing. So
9 I'll start with a motion that we accept all the
10 redline edits.

11 CHAIR THOMPSON: Second.

12 MS. RICE: Would you -- could -- I'm
13 sorry, could you scroll it down a little? Or
14 up. No, down. A little more.

15 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah, I wanted to
16 get all the edits --

17 (Simultaneous speaking.)

18 CHAIR THOMPSON: -- read it clean and
19 maybe get some -- get some more edits in, but
20 let's start by accepting all changes. Now that
21 we can see what it looks like clean, maybe
22 we'll spot a few more.

1 MS. STROUD: Yeah, it's got.

2 MS. RICE: Thank you. I can see it
3 now.

4 MS. STROUD: Okay.

5 MR. SCHILLER: Maybe remove that
6 extra line between there and preference.

7 MS. STROUD: It's messing up the
8 formatting when I do that, so I'll just have to
9 figure that out. It's messing up the bullet
10 points when I do it that way, so let me just
11 see. Of course, it'll be corrected when it
12 goes to print, but here's how it reads right
13 now, so we'll fix it up.

14 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-hmm.

15 MR. BOGGS: All choice, we see in
16 the last line, this initiative would not be
17 implemented or should it be this initiative
18 will not be (audio interference). Maybe it
19 doesn't make any difference.

20 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah.

21 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-hmm.

22 MS. STROUD: I think will.

1 CHAIR THOMPSON: Will is a better,
2 yeah, you're right, that's the right tense.

3 MS. GREENFIELD: Mm-hmm.

4 CHAIR THOMPSON: I think I like
5 that. I think I'm okay with that. I think
6 it's fair, it's balanced.

7 MS. GREENFIELD: I will acquiesce to
8 be independent. You have convinced me.

9 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Well,
10 before I make a final motion.

11 MS. STROUD: And open, can we just
12 say --

13 CHAIR THOMPSON: Anybody that's been
14 a part of this feel free to make a suggestion.

15 MS. STROUD: Do we need this, the?

16 MR. STREGE: I you move the the, I
17 think you should make it opening. The
18 aforementioned conversation about not saying
19 open primary.

20 MS. STROUD: Yeah.

21 CHAIR THOMPSON: I think you leave
22 the the. I think opening, expanding, starts to

1 tip a little bit to the positive type of
2 description.

3 MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah. Leave the
4 the.

5 MR. BOGGS: I think Terri already
6 raised this, maybe we shouldn't get into it,
7 but if the D.C. Council decides, okay, we're
8 going to fund the open primary part but not the
9 ranked choice voting part, is it all, under
10 this language, does it all go down or do they
11 have to fund both to make it happen?

12 MR. SANDLER: Under the language of
13 the thing itself. Under the language of the
14 initiative itself, both have to be funded to
15 make it happen.

16 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yeah, that's what
17 it says in the text. What section is that?

18 MS. STROUD: What section is what?

19 CHAIR THOMPSON: Legislative text on
20 funding.

21 MR. SANDLER: Section five, Mr.
22 Chair.

1 CHAIR THOMPSON: Thank you.

2 MS. STROUD: Which is actually
3 either three or four now because we've
4 corrected the numbering.

5 CHAIR THOMPSON: Well, that's really
6 kind of a separate question for the Council
7 that it could partially fund half of this and
8 not the other half. It says this act shall
9 apply upon the date of inclusion of its fiscal
10 effect in an improved budget and financial
11 plan. Though that's singular, the whole thing
12 has to be funded. I think they would be wrong
13 if they tried to split it and fund only half,
14 the half that maybe they like versus the half
15 they don't like. I think it is all or nothing,
16 that's what the language says. I think we just
17 sort of leave that unaddressed in the summary
18 statement because that's getting into a
19 footnote point.

20 All right. Before I call the final
21 motion, any other edits?

22 MS. STROUD: And I'll, Mr. Chair,

1 I'll read it into the record once you're done.

2 CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Going once,
3 going twice. I would move that we adopt the
4 short title and summary statement that we see
5 on our screen here, if the general counsel
6 could please read that into the record.

7 MS. STROUD: Sure. Initiative
8 Measure 83, the short title reads as follows,
9 Ranked Choice Voting and Open the Primary
10 Elections to Independent Voters Act of 2024.
11 The summary statement reads as follows, If
12 enacted, the initiative will both A, implement
13 ranked choice voting to allow voters to rank up
14 to five candidates according to their
15 preference in each contest for any office
16 (other than political party offices); and B,
17 permit any voter who is not registered with a
18 political party to vote in the primary election
19 of that voter's choosing for all offices (other
20 than political party offices). This initiative
21 will not be implemented unless the D.C. Council
22 separately chooses to appropriate funds for the

1 projected costs.

2 CHAIR THOMPSON: Second?

3 MR. BOGGS: Second.

4 CHAIR THOMPSON: All in favor.

5 (Chorus of aye.)

6 CHAIR THOMPSON: The motion carries
7 unanimately. Thank you, everybody, for your
8 input, that was really helpful. I think we
9 struck the right balance. As the general
10 counsel explained, this will now be published
11 in the D.C. Register on September 1, which will
12 commence a 10 day period for appeals, including
13 regarding whether this is a proper subject
14 matter at all for a voters initiative. So
15 that's the next phase ahead of us before we get
16 to issuing petitions for signature and all
17 those other details. So that concludes our
18 business here in our special session. We will
19 be returning for a regular meeting on September
20 16.

21 MS. STROUD: Yes. Well, September
22 13.

1 CHAIR THOMPSON: 13, sorry,
2 September 13, 10:30, where I'm sure we'll have
3 a lot of progress to report about the election
4 itself and many, many details, and maybe some
5 additional developments regarding this voter's
6 initiative. With that, I would move we
7 adjourn.

8 MS. GREENFIELD: Second.

9 CHAIR THOMPSON: All in favor.

10 (Chorus of aye.)

11 CHAIR THOMPSON: Everybody have a
12 great rest of the summer.

13 (Whereupon, the above-entitled
14 matter went off the record at 11:22 a.m.)

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

A

a.m. 1:12 2:2 42:14
ability 33:13
able 18:17
above-entitled 42:13
accept 30:1 35:9
accepted 35:3
accepting 35:20
access 3:7 8:17 14:18
 15:12 33:2,3,5
accurate 13:2 26:1
accurately 8:21
acquiesce 37:7
act 8:12,15,18 12:4,17
 16:1 30:4,9 33:18,21
 34:6 39:8 40:10
action 18:15
active 33:5
add 10:3 20:5
adding 20:13 22:9
additional 19:16 42:5
address 30:4
addressed 17:22 22:3
adjourn 42:7
adopt 40:3
adoption 2:12 6:4
advance 4:13
affiliated 13:20
affirmative 3:5
mentioned 37:18
agenda 2:10,15,21
agree 11:13 16:16,20
 24:7 26:17 32:5,14,19
 34:14
ahead 34:4 41:15
allow 10:10 19:9 20:18
 21:5 40:13
allowing 19:18
allows 27:19
alternative 8:15
altogether 14:11 15:5
amended 8:11
anybody 17:14 19:14
 37:13
anyway 26:4,11
appeals 41:12
apply 39:9
appropriate 6:17 17:2
 22:16 24:14 28:18
 40:22
appropriately 5:15
assume 27:13
attention 11:4
audio 4:9 36:18
AUGUST 1:9
average 11:16
avoid 14:10
avoiding 15:4

aware 3:22 7:2
aye 2:18,19 41:5 42:10

B

B 15:20 16:17 17:2,2,7
 17:8,21 18:2,6,15,19
 22:4,8,14 23:1 24:8
 28:10,13,19 32:1
 34:17 40:16
back 17:21 22:1 25:2
 30:15
balance 41:9
balanced 37:6
ballot 3:7 8:6,22 9:12
 9:13,18 27:14
baseline 6:2
basically 23:14
beginning 9:10
benefit 9:18
best 14:9
better 14:1 25:1 34:18
 37:1
bias 28:11
bill 22:22
bit 2:22 16:7 17:13
 28:11 38:1
board 1:4,6,11,13,17
 2:6,7 3:2,10 5:3,7,9
Board's 5:5 6:10,20
Boggs 1:15 2:8 15:13
 17:9 21:7 22:20,22
 23:20 25:2,8,20 26:14
 27:22 28:8 30:7 31:21
 33:4 34:20 35:4 36:15
 38:5 41:3
Brian 31:7 32:14
bring 28:10
bringing 14:20
brought 16:13
bubble 26:11
bubbles 26:6,8
budget 39:10
bullet 9:8,16 10:9,14
 17:1 18:10,17 36:9
business 41:18

C

C 4:2
call 12:3 14:5 29:18
 30:2 39:20
called 31:21
candidate 19:12 21:13
 27:17
candidates 9:19 10:11
 10:14 19:10,19,22
 20:11,19 21:4,6,13,16
 25:10,11 26:7,8,10
 27:7,9 40:14

carries 41:6
case 3:1 26:10,18
cases 11:11
cause 13:15
cetera 4:4 10:3
Chair 1:12,14 2:3,6,17
 2:20 5:2,3,18 7:13
 10:21 11:22 13:4,8
 14:4 16:14,22 17:11
 19:3 20:3,16 21:8,15
 22:2,12 24:10 26:17
 26:20 27:2,16 28:7
 29:1,13,16 32:3 33:6
 33:11,16 34:3,9,21
 35:6,11,15,18 36:20
 37:1,4,9,13,21 38:16
 38:19,22 39:1,5,22
 40:2 41:2,4,6 42:1,9
 42:11
Chairman 11:8 13:6
 30:14
change 34:16
changes 6:17 35:20
changing 34:18
chime 14:6
choice 8:11,13,16 9:3
 10:2,3,10 12:3 15:21
 19:9,22 20:2,18 21:5
 25:14 26:6 27:17 29:7
 30:3 33:20 36:15 38:9
 40:9,13
choices 10:2,11 20:6
 20:19 29:18
choose 10:16 21:14
chooses 22:16 24:14
 28:17 40:22
choosing 10:17 32:10
 40:19
Chorus 2:19 41:5 42:10
circulation 6:9
clarification 31:13
clarify 20:7
clarity 19:8
clause 9:9 18:1,3,11
 34:17
clauses 18:20
clean 35:7,18,21
clear 9:22 32:19 35:1
clearly 17:3
closed 9:3 11:9 16:5
 34:15
closing 9:5
Code 4:1
Columbia 1:2,11
combined 10:6 16:10
combining 18:6,11
coming 17:16
comma 28:1

commence 2:21 7:3,15
 41:12
comment 3:11 4:18,20
 4:21 5:1 14:2,6 17:13
 17:16 19:2,4,8
comments 4:13 7:22
 11:1 15:14 33:7
Commissioner 14:5
common 12:5
commonly 12:8 29:22
 33:12
completely 20:21
component 28:12
concern 8:3 9:7 13:9,13
 13:13,21 22:7 31:1
concludes 41:17
concluding 18:1,11
confirm 3:16
confusing 26:20 28:19
 35:8
confusion 13:15
Congress 18:22
connection 4:8
considered 3:2
consistently 11:14
contest 10:12 21:1,17
 25:8 40:15
convened 1:11
conversation 31:8
 37:18
convinced 37:8
core 3:15
correct 5:12 14:17
 19:17,20,21 29:9
 34:10
corrected 5:14 36:11
 39:4
cost 18:4 22:17 24:15
costs 10:7 41:1
Council 9:14 10:8 18:4
 18:15 22:15 23:21
 24:13,18 28:17 38:7
 39:6 40:21
counsel 1:18 4:18 6:2
 7:16 15:15 40:5 41:10
count 4:16 19:13,17
couple 15:14
course 3:8,21 6:6 36:11
court 6:16,19 11:12
cover 16:15
covers 17:12 29:16
create 4:5
crucial 10:4
currently 14:14
cut 30:12

D

D.C. 3:4 4:16 6:10,11,16

7:5,11 9:14 10:8 18:4
22:15 23:21 24:13,17
28:17 30:20,22 38:7
40:21 41:11
date 39:9
day 6:13,22 7:3 41:12
DC 4:1
decide 3:15
decides 38:7
deeper 17:13
defined 15:3
defines 14:21
defining 31:15
definitely 25:17
definition 12:9 29:20
definitions 15:2 32:22
deleted 28:4,5
deliberate 19:5
delineate 17:3
Democratic 11:11
depending 15:3
described 12:13 32:7
describes 32:11,15
34:17
description 12:11
24:22 38:2
detail 12:12
detailed 4:14
details 41:17 42:4
determination 5:5 6:20
developments 42:5
difference 36:19
different 17:5 19:1
direction 15:8
directionally 14:17
discuss 2:11 3:16
discussion 12:5 18:5
distinct 22:7
District 1:2,11
dive 17:12
doing 9:4 20:20
draft 4:10 5:16 6:1
drafted 7:9 17:6
drew 11:4

E

easily 13:2
easy 15:19 16:15 17:12
echo 20:12
edit 20:4,17 29:14
edits 35:2,10,16,19
39:21
EDT 1:12
effect 39:10
either 11:18 30:9,17
39:3
elaborate 32:1
election 8:17 10:17

13:18 32:10 40:18
42:3
elections 1:4,11,13,17
2:6 8:12,14 11:19,20
12:17 30:3 33:17,21
34:5,10 40:10
email 4:16,20 6:6 14:5
emphasize 11:15
enacted 9:13 10:7 18:3
18:14 19:1 23:7,11,13
23:15,16,21 24:11,12
40:12
encourage 15:4,7
encouraging 14:16
English 11:21
entire 8:1
enumerating 10:2
errors 5:13
especially 4:1
essentially 28:20
et 4:4 10:3
everybody 2:3,22 4:21
41:7 42:11
everyday 9:22
exact 20:5 34:2
exactly 32:7
example 20:15
expand 11:19
expanded 14:22
expanding 8:17 14:17
15:11 16:6 30:9 33:2
33:3 34:19 37:22
expending 33:4
explain 24:2
explained 41:10
explains 24:6
extra 12:21 36:6

F

fact 13:4
fair 37:6
fairly 15:16
favor 2:17 17:6 20:4
22:4,8 41:4 42:9
feedback 5:19
feel 8:20 22:18 30:20
37:14
fellow 2:7
fifth 26:9
figure 36:9
file 6:17
final 37:10 39:20
Finally 9:17
financial 39:10
fine 20:22
first 4:17 10:2,9 16:16
18:12,13 26:9 34:1
fiscal 39:9

five 9:20 10:11 20:6,8
20:13,19 21:4,6,13,14
21:15 25:21 26:8,21
27:2,6,7,9 38:21
40:14
fix 36:13
floor 4:21
folks 16:12
followed 31:3,12
follows 40:8,11
footnote 39:19
form 2:13 5:11 33:8
formatting 36:8
formulate 5:8
formulations 6:8,15 7:5
7:9,10
four 26:22 39:3
fourth 26:9
franchise 14:19,20 15:9
free 37:14
Friday 6:12 7:3
front 23:10,11 24:3
fully 14:14
fund 18:16 24:18 29:8
38:8,11 39:7,13
funded 9:14 10:7 18:4
23:3,7,9,12,16 24:6
29:4 38:14 39:12
funding 9:9 29:5,6 35:5
38:20
funds 22:16 24:14
28:18 40:22

G

Gary 1:12,14 2:5 15:17
34:2
general 1:18 4:18 6:2,9
8:5,9 9:1 15:15 40:5
41:9
generally 12:6
gerund 30:17
getting 35:8 39:18
given 12:11
go 11:1 19:15 21:22
25:2 26:4 28:22 30:15
34:4 38:10
goes 36:12
going 3:14 5:22 7:7 8:1
13:11 14:4 16:5 17:21
26:4,5,11 27:3 28:22
30:21 32:21 38:8 40:2
40:3
good 2:4 7:19 17:8,19
24:11 29:2,10 33:7
34:20
GOVERNMENT 1:1
great 15:15 42:12
green 3:7

GREENBERG 20:10
29:12
Greenfield 1:15 2:8,16
13:6,9 16:20 17:10
19:6,21 21:10 22:11
23:5 24:1 25:6,16
26:2,19 27:5,8,15,21
28:2,6 29:3 30:19
31:1,11,14,20 32:13
32:18 34:8,12 36:14
36:21 37:3,7 38:3
42:8
grounds 6:19
guess 20:17 21:11
27:16
guidance 3:22

H

half 39:7,8,13,14,14
hand 17:15
hands 17:16
happen 9:11 23:2 38:11
38:15
happens 25:12
head 32:6
hear 2:4 4:19 14:3
heard 22:7 30:8
Hello 2:3 17:18,19
help 31:3,13
helpful 41:8
helps 20:6
Hi 7:19
highlight 7:22
Hopefully 2:4

I

idea 16:3,6 29:10
impartial 4:3
implement 10:9 19:9
20:17 21:5 23:17
40:12
implemented 22:15
23:7 24:9,13 28:17,21
29:8 36:17 40:21
implied 26:18
implies 18:20 22:5
imply 14:14
important 20:13 24:18
improved 39:10
included 5:17
including 6:20 41:12
inclusion 39:9
incorporated 18:2
23:21
increasing 14:19
independent 3:18 8:9
8:12,14,18 11:20
12:17 13:1,10,10,14

13:16,20 18:7,20,21
22:1 30:5,19,19,21
31:2,12,15,19 33:9,12
33:18,21 34:6,11 37:8
40:10
independents 13:12,18
infer 30:21
information 10:4
informative 3:19
informed 9:2 14:13
initiative 2:14 3:3,6,12
6:18,22 10:8 15:9
18:5 22:6 23:1,12,14
28:16,21 29:11 36:16
36:17 38:14 40:7,12
40:20 41:14 42:6
initiatives 16:10 17:5
input 41:8
inserted 20:11
inserting 30:16
intent 8:6,21
intentionally 4:5
interference 4:10 36:18
issue 3:3
issued 3:7 4:8 5:3
issues 11:2
issuing 41:16
it'll 36:11

J

J.C 1:15 2:8 17:8 22:19
job 3:16 4:2,7 15:15
Joseph 7:16
July 5:4
jurisdictions 20:14
justices 11:12

K

Karyn 1:15 2:8 13:7
16:18 19:6 22:19 23:4
Karyn's 30:5
keep 2:5 16:7 32:1
keeping 22:17
kind 20:20,21 22:17
23:9 24:15,21 25:22
32:14 33:1,13 35:8
39:6
know 7:16 11:16 17:15
17:18 23:16 26:22
27:11 32:20,22 34:3
knows 3:1

L

language 4:4 5:16 20:5
22:1,3 34:2 35:5
38:10,12,13 39:16
launch 6:13
law 3:4 18:9,22 22:6

23:15 28:15
laws 18:9 19:2 22:5
28:14
lawyers 11:9
lead 7:17
lean 22:17
leave 24:8 37:21 38:3
39:17
left 15:12
legislation 18:8
legislative 2:13 5:10,11
38:19
let's 34:21 35:20
letters 34:1
level 13:15
light 3:7
liked 16:3
line 35:5 36:6,16
lines 16:21 35:7
Lisa 4:15 7:15 18:1
literally 34:9
litigated 11:10
little 2:22 12:15 16:7
17:13 20:20 28:11
35:13,14 38:1
live 19:5
long 25:4
longer 12:16
look 35:4
looking 12:20 24:3
looks 33:20 35:21
loses 24:21
lot 15:19 42:3

M

main 8:3
Maine 20:15
making 18:10 26:5
manifest 18:17
mathematically 25:15
matter 3:4,6 11:15
24:19 41:14 42:14
mean 3:11 11:14 13:19
13:19 22:7 23:8 25:13
25:15 32:11
meaning 3:12
means 12:21 18:14
29:7 32:8,12,20
measure 2:14 4:6 5:6,9
6:5,21 8:7,22 9:2,12
9:14,18 40:8
meeting 1:6 4:9 5:14,18
6:4 17:21 41:19
member 1:15,15 5:20
members 1:13 2:7 4:12
memo 11:3
mentioned 7:21
merits 3:11

messaging 36:7,9
met 5:6
mind 15:18
minus 26:7,12
Mm-hmm 17:10 22:11
27:5 36:14,21 37:3
Mm-mmm 28:2
modification 30:2
modifier 22:13
modifying 12:10
money 23:11,19
morning 2:4 7:19,21
motion 34:22 35:9
37:10 39:21 41:6
move 2:14 35:1 37:16
40:3 42:6
moving 9:9 32:16

N

name 2:5
National 11:11
necessarily 9:22 26:18
necessary 24:19 25:20
need 9:11 18:13 22:10
24:15 25:10 27:8,10
37:15
needed 27:11
needs 9:12,14 18:14
23:7,8
negative 28:12
neither 18:2 22:14 24:8
28:10,13,18 29:7
neutral 3:18 12:11
34:13
newspaper 6:9
Nikolas 17:17
note 4:20 8:1
noted 5:18
notice 1:12 4:9 5:13,17
notify 6:5
nuances 15:1
number 2:14 9:12,13
26:6,6
numbered 5:15
numbering 5:12 39:4

O

objections 6:16,18
objects 6:14
obviously 3:18
occurring 34:16
office 5:16 6:2 10:12
15:14 21:2,17 25:9
40:15
offices 10:13,18,18
21:18 25:9 26:15
32:11 40:16,19,20
Oh 28:2

okay 2:4,20 7:13 16:18
17:16 21:10 27:21
28:6,8 34:4 36:4 37:5
38:7 40:2
once 3:9 18:16 23:8
40:1,2
onset 5:12
opaque 12:19
open 4:21 8:11,14 11:8
11:19 12:4,6,7,16
13:18 14:11,12,14
15:7 16:5 29:19,21
30:3,17 32:20,21
33:17,20 34:5,10,13
34:15 37:11,19 38:8
40:9
opened 13:12
opening 9:5 12:22 15:7
15:9 16:6 18:3 30:9
30:17 33:5 37:17,22
opportunity 4:11
opposed 28:12
option 29:22
order 5:4,4 9:2,7,15,21
16:16,17 17:7 29:5
organizations 29:20
outset 24:21
overlapped 11:3
overly 3:21

P

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2:1
packaged 17:5
paragraph 25:3
paren 21:7 26:15
parens 31:12
parenthesis 31:3
parenthetical 20:6
21:12
parents 31:15
part 5:17 15:22 28:10
37:14 38:8,9
partial 12:19
partially 12:3,10 14:11
14:12 39:7
partially- 29:18 32:19
partially-open 29:19
32:4,12,21
participate 10:16
party 10:13,16,18 11:11
13:11,20 21:18 25:9
26:15 30:20,22 32:9
33:8 40:16,18,20
pass 18:15
paste 30:12
path 28:22
people 7:2 12:5 13:11

13:17 14:20 30:21
period 6:13,19,22 7:3
 26:15 28:1,3 41:12
permit 9:19 10:15 32:8
 40:17
petitions 41:16
phase 41:15
phrase 8:4 12:8,16
 24:20 29:22
piece 10:4
pieces 18:8
place 6:12
plain 4:4 11:16,21
plan 39:11
please 5:1 13:8 31:7
 40:6
point 10:9,14,19 18:6
 24:16 30:5 33:7 39:19
points 9:8,16 17:1
 18:10,17 36:10
political 10:13,16,18
 11:10 21:18 25:9
 26:14 32:9 40:16,18
 40:20
positive 28:12 38:1
precise 13:2
preference 9:21 21:1
 21:16 36:6 40:15
preferred 10:11 20:11
 20:19
prejudice 4:6
prepare 4:3
prepared 5:16 6:1
PRESENT 1:13,17
presented 9:8
presents 6:21
presiding 1:12
pretty 2:10 14:18 20:13
 33:11
primaries 12:4,6,7 16:1
 29:6,19,21 30:9 34:7
 34:15
primary 8:12,14,17
 10:17 11:8,9,19,20
 12:16 13:1,18 14:17
 15:11 30:3 32:9 33:3
 33:4,5,17,21 34:5,10
 37:19 38:8 40:9,18
print 36:12
probably 3:1 14:9 26:13
 34:18
problem 28:13
progress 42:3
projected 10:7 18:3
 22:16 24:15 41:1
proper 3:4,5 5:6,10
 6:21 24:19 41:13
proposed 3:3 5:6 6:21

7:9
proposer 4:15,19 5:19
 6:5,6 7:15
provided 5:10
providing 8:19
public 3:9 4:12 5:20 8:5
 8:9 9:1 16:9
publication 6:11
published 6:8 7:5,10
 41:10
pursuant 1:12
put 5:9 7:1 21:3,12
 24:20 25:18 31:14
 33:6
puts 24:3
putting 15:15

Q

qualified 10:14 25:10
 25:11 27:9,10,14
question 12:1 19:7 29:4
 39:6
questions 15:18
quick 11:22
quo 34:14
quorum 2:9
quote 4:2 33:8

R

races 19:13
raise 17:14
raised 38:6
rank 10:10 19:10,14,15
 19:18 20:1,18 21:4,6
 21:13,14,15 27:6
 40:13
ranked 8:11,13,16 10:9
 12:3 15:20 19:9,16
 20:17 21:5 25:14 26:6
 27:17 29:7 30:2 33:20
 38:9 40:9,13
ranking 9:19,21
rankings 9:20 19:17
re-written 21:2
read 8:1 13:11,17 15:17
 18:7 19:10 23:20
 35:18 40:1,6
reads 15:16 36:12 40:8
 40:11
real 6:3 20:21
reality 18:22
really 3:15 8:5 11:3
 15:3 17:4 18:12 24:16
 32:4 39:5 41:8
reason 15:8 31:22
receive 5:19
received 4:13,16
recognized 8:8 30:20
 30:22
recommending 8:10
record 7:2 35:1 40:1,6
 42:14
red 35:7
redline 35:2,10
reflect 8:6
reflected 5:5
reflects 8:21
reform 18:10
reforms 18:9
regard 4:1
regarding 6:18 41:13
 42:5
Register 6:10,11 7:6,11
 41:11
registered 6:14 10:15
 32:8 40:17
registration 33:7
regular 41:19
regulatory 3:22
reiterate 28:15
related 20:3
remove 21:12 26:13
 36:5
repeat 8:13
replace 30:8
report 42:3
requesting 6:16
requirements 5:7
requiring 24:17
respect 17:22
respectfully 11:18
rest 42:12
restrict 26:5
restricting 14:15 15:10
resubmit 16:9
returning 41:19
reverse 15:20
reversing 9:15
review 6:15
reworded 20:22
Rice 4:15 7:15,19 10:22
 19:20 20:4,9 21:21
 22:9 27:13 30:1,14
 31:2,5,7,10,18 33:19
 35:12 36:2
right 16:14 17:11 20:11
 23:11 30:5 32:17
 34:13 36:12 37:2,2,9
 39:20 41:9
round 25:14
routed 18:8
rule 26:4
ruled 3:2,5
ruling 3:8

S

Sandler 7:16 11:5,7
 12:18 13:22 29:9
 32:17 33:10,15 38:12
 38:21
sat 11:1
saw 11:3 32:5
saying 22:8 23:18
 28:20 31:11 32:4
 37:18
says 18:12 24:5 33:8
 38:17 39:8,16
Schiller 17:17,19 25:13
 25:19 26:3 27:1,19
 28:9 36:5
scientists 11:10
scratcher 32:6
screen 7:8 28:5 35:2
 40:5
scroll 35:13
second 2:15,16 10:3,14
 15:22 25:18 26:9
 35:11 41:2,3 42:8
secondarily 23:2
section 4:1 38:17,18,21
sections 5:15
see 6:7 7:8 17:16,19
 28:8 30:11 35:2,7,21
 36:2,11,15 40:4
seek 6:15
semi-closed 8:4,21 9:3
 11:9 14:10 15:1,22
 30:8 32:19 34:6
semi-open 14:10
semicolon 26:15
sense 15:20 16:2,13
 21:20
sent 8:2
sentence 25:5
separate 16:10 17:4
 18:11 22:5 28:14 39:6
separately 22:15 24:14
 40:22
September 6:12 7:1,4
 41:11,19,21 42:2
session 2:11 41:18
set 2:21
share 7:7
shared 15:17
short 2:12 3:17 4:10 5:8
 8:2,10,19 16:8,18
 31:22 32:4 40:4,8
shortening 24:20
shows 28:5
signature 41:16
simple 2:10 15:16 16:3
 32:1
simpler 16:11
simplify 25:22

simply 14:11
Simultaneous 22:21
 23:22 25:7 35:17
singular 39:11
six 20:15
slash 31:4
slight 30:2
somebody 12:19 33:6
somewhat 12:19
sorry 20:20 23:1,4 31:6
 35:13 42:1
sort 11:15 24:20 34:17
 39:17
sound 9:4
sounding 33:13
sounds 28:14
speak 7:17
speaking 22:21 23:22
 25:7 35:17
speaks 15:8
special 1:6 2:11 17:20
 41:18
split 39:13
spot 35:22
spotted 11:2
STAFF 1:17
standard 20:14
start 15:20,21 33:13
 35:9,20
starts 37:22
state 11:21
stated 5:3
statement 2:13 3:17 4:3
 4:11 5:9 9:6 10:5
 12:13 14:21 32:7
 39:18 40:4,11
statements 4:5
stating 6:16
status 34:14
statutory 3:22
straightforward 18:18
STREGE 14:2,8 20:12
 21:3,11,19 27:6 29:10
 30:11 31:4,6,9 37:16
strongly 22:18
Stroud 1:18 4:18,22 5:2
 28:4 29:15 36:1,4,7
 36:22 37:11,15,20
 38:18 39:2,22 40:7
 41:21
struck 41:9
stuff 16:15 17:12
sub 4:2
subject 3:4,6 5:6 6:21
 24:19 41:13
submit 4:12
submitted 7:21
sufficient 12:14

suggest 9:9,15 12:4
suggested 15:11 17:1
 18:1 20:5,17 30:1
 34:1
suggestion 8:16 29:2
 37:14
suggestions 4:14 7:18
suggests 34:16
summary 2:12 3:17 4:3
 4:10 5:8 9:6 10:5
 12:12 14:21 32:6
 39:17 40:4,11
summer 42:12
Superior 6:15
supplement 11:6
Supreme 11:12
sure 8:22 31:9,9,18
 32:14 40:7 42:2
switch 16:1,16
switching 17:7

T

table 2:22
take 6:12 15:19 18:15
 18:19
talk 12:6 30:18
talked 22:13
talking 30:13,15
technical 12:9 29:20
 33:14
technically 25:13
tells 23:10 27:2
tense 33:5 37:2
term 8:7,21 11:18 12:18
 13:14
terms 10:1 11:8,14
 12:22 14:10 15:5
 22:12
Terri 1:18 4:18,22 29:13
 38:5
text 5:10 30:12 38:17
 38:19
thank 5:2 7:13,20 10:20
 10:21 11:7,21 13:4
 14:6 17:20 19:2 29:1
 31:10 36:2 39:1 41:7
thanks 15:13 16:15
 19:3
thing 24:2 30:18 32:14
 33:1 38:13 39:11
things 9:11 15:1 17:4
 18:13,21 19:4 22:7
 30:7,16
think 2:22 7:14,14 9:17
 9:20 10:1 12:5,8,14
 13:1 14:9,13 15:14,19
 16:12,22 17:2,21
 19:11 20:10 22:4,9,19

23:6,9 24:10,15,22
 26:12 28:18 29:16,17
 31:13 32:15 33:19,22
 34:12,13,18 36:22
 37:4,5,5,17,21,22
 38:5 39:12,15,16 41:8
thinking 33:1
third 26:9
Thompson 1:12,14 2:3
 2:6,17,20 7:13 10:21
 11:22 13:4,8 14:4
 16:14,22 17:11 19:3
 20:3,16 21:8,15 22:2
 22:12 24:10 26:17,20
 27:2,16 28:7 29:1,13
 29:16 32:3 33:6,11,16
 34:3,9,21 35:6,11,15
 35:18 36:20 37:1,4,9
 37:13,21 38:16,19
 39:1,5 40:2 41:2,4,6
 42:1,9,11

thoughtful 4:14 10:22
thoughts 17:18
three 2:8 10:13 25:10
 25:11,22 26:7,21 27:4
 27:12 39:3
time 3:10 6:4 7:20
 20:21
tip 38:1
title 2:12 3:17 4:10 5:8
 8:2,10 14:16 15:11,21
 16:3,17,18 29:17
 31:22 34:1 40:4,8
titles 8:20
today 2:7,11 3:16 5:8
 5:22 6:7 7:12 17:21
today's 5:13,18
track 16:17
transferred 18:22
tried 39:13
true 4:3 23:6
try 2:5 16:7 34:21
trying 23:5,9
tweak 16:7
tweaks 16:12
twice 40:3
two 8:19 9:11,13,15
 16:9 17:4,5 18:7,9,9
 18:10,13,16,16,21
 19:1,4 22:5,6 25:12
 25:14,17 26:10,12
 28:14 30:7,13,15
type 34:4 38:1

U

U.S 11:12
unaddressed 39:17
unaffiliated 8:7 13:19

13:22 30:4 31:3,12,16
 31:17
unanimously 41:7
unarguable 14:18
understand 3:20 9:10
understandable 13:3
understanding 9:18
 11:17
understands 9:1
understood 8:5,8 15:2
unfunded 23:14,15
unlimited 9:19
unmute 7:20
unmuted 17:18
urge 11:18
use 8:4,20 11:18 13:14
 13:16 15:6 17:1
usually 10:1
utilized 27:4

V

verb 30:16
verbose 16:4
versus 16:5 39:14
Video/Teleconference
 1:11
Virginia 12:7
voice 2:5
vote 3:13,13 19:12,13
 23:13 24:12 25:17
 32:9 40:18
voted 23:8
voter 2:13 3:3 6:14
 11:16 13:14 14:13
 18:18 19:11,21 28:19
 32:8,18 33:9 40:17
voter's 3:6,12 32:10
 40:19 42:5
voters 3:13,14,19 6:17
 8:7,9,12,15,18 9:10
 9:13,17 10:1,10,15
 11:20 12:17 13:1,10
 13:17,19 18:14 19:1,8
 19:10,18 20:18 21:5
 24:12 30:4 33:7,18,21
 34:6,11 40:10,13
 41:14
voters' 22:6
Votes 4:15
voting 3:20 8:11,13,17
 10:10 12:3 15:21 19:9
 19:16 20:18 21:5
 25:14 27:17 30:3
 33:20 38:9 40:9,13

W

waiting 23:19
want 5:11 7:22 10:3

15:6 19:14,15 20:1
 21:22
wanted 7:1 28:9 35:7
 35:15
wants 7:17
wasn't 17:22
way 9:10 12:2,20 14:15
 17:6 20:22 24:11,17
 25:1 36:10
ways 16:4
we'll 2:21 4:17,19,19,20
 6:3 19:3 35:22 36:13
 42:2
we're 3:12 5:22 7:7,11
 8:10,19 9:4,5,5 14:15
 16:4 19:18 30:15
 31:15 32:15 34:4,17
 38:7
we've 4:13,16 13:12
 22:13 39:3
website 6:10 29:21
wedded 12:9
WEDNESDAY 1:8
weight 14:8
weighted 12:2
welcoming 9:4
went 42:14
wondered 16:8
word 12:10 13:16 15:6
 15:7 27:10 30:6 33:12
wording 9:22
words 12:22 24:16
 33:17
wordy 3:21 12:15
work 6:1,3 12:2
working 7:12 21:22
works 21:8
worth 12:21
wouldn't 26:8 31:16
write 27:17
written 3:8 4:4,12 5:4
 7:22
wrong 39:12

X

Y

yeah 13:8 14:8 16:14,20
 20:9,12 21:8,11,19
 22:2 23:5 24:5,7,10
 25:6,16,19 26:2,3,19
 27:1,15,20 28:2,7
 29:1,3,12 31:20 32:3
 32:13 33:4,10,15,22
 34:7 35:6,15 36:1,20
 37:2,20 38:3,16
Yep 29:15

Z

Zoom 6:7 30:12

0

1

1 6:12 7:4 41:11
1-4:1
10 6:13,22 7:3 41:12
10:30 1:12 42:2
10:33 2:2
1001.16 4:2
11 7:1
11:22 42:14
13 41:22 42:1,2
14 33:22,22 34:8
16 41:20

2

2023 1:9
2024 8:13,15,18 12:4
 30:4,10 33:22 40:10
23 1:9
25 5:4

3

4

5

6

7

8

83 2:14 40:8

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Special Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 08-23-23

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1716 14TH ST., N.W., STE. 200

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009-7831