



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1E
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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#1E-2024-1202: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF INITIATIVE 83

WHEREAS, Residents of Washington, D.C. introduced the Make All Votes Count Act of 2024 and gathered more than 27,000 registered voters' signatures from across all 8 Wards to successfully place the measure on the 2024 general election ballot ("Initiative 83"); and

WHEREAS, Initiative 83 sought to implement Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) and open primaries to independent voters in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, RVC enables voters to rank candidates by preference, ensuring that elected officials have majority support, while open primaries expand access to primary elections for all registered voters, regardless of party affiliation; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 83 was specifically designed to:

- Enhance voter participation and equity by granting independent voters—comprising approximately 17% of D.C.'s electorate—the ability to vote in primary elections that determine most local winners
- Reduce vote-splitting and ensure more representative election outcomes by using RCV to elect candidates with majority support; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 83 was approved by voters in Washington, D.C. during the November 2024 election with overwhelming support, receiving 73% of the vote citywide, including 79% in Ward 1; and

WHEREAS, D.C.'s Chief Financial Officer estimates the cost of implementing Initiative 83 at \$1.5 million over four years, encompassing:

- Voting Infrastructure Upgrades: Modifications to voting machines and software to handle RCV tabulations
- Voter Education: Campaigns to educate voters on the new system, ensuring widespread understanding and confidence
- Administrative Training: Preparing election officials to oversee and execute these electoral reforms; and

WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting is already in use in several other large cities such as New York City¹ and San Francisco²; and

WHEREAS, Open primaries for unaffiliated voters is already in use in 7 states³; and

¹ <https://vote.nyc/page/ranked-choice-voting>

² <https://www.sf.gov/ranked-choice-voting>

³ <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/state-primary-election-types>

WHEREAS, D.C. law prohibits ballot initiatives that would cost the city money so Initiative 83 included language saying that it’s “subject to appropriations”, which means that now the D.C. Council and Mayor need to allocate funds in the budget to implement Initiative 83; and

WHEREAS, Failing to fund Initiative 83 would delay the implementation of these voter-approved reforms, undermining public confidence in D.C.’s commitment to democracy and electoral fairness; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 1E calls on Mayor Bowser to include all funds necessary to fully implement the Make All Votes Count Act of 2024 in the FY26 Budget; further

BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 1E calls on the D.C. Council to ensure funding for the Make All Votes Count Act of 2024 remains or is added to the FY26 Budget; further

BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 1E emphasizes the importance of:


1. Timely Implementation: Ensuring systems are ready for the June 2026 election cycle, as stipulated by the initiative
2. Comprehensive Voter Outreach: Prioritizing public education to equip all voters—especially underrepresented groups—with the knowledge needed to navigate the new systems
3. Equity and Accessibility: Guaranteeing that voting remains accessible for all residents, including individuals with disabilities and limited English proficiency; further

BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 1E designates Commissioners Josh Jacobson and Brian Footer to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this Resolution. In the event the designated representative Commissioner cannot carry out their representative duties for any reason, ANC 1E authorizes the Chair to designate another Commissioner to represent the Commission in all matter relating to this Resolution.

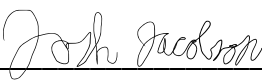
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Certification:

At a regularly scheduled and publicly noticed meeting held on December 4, 2024, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1E considered the above resolution. With a quorum of 4 Commissioners present, the Commission voted with 4 Yeas, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions, to adopt the above resolution.



Brian Footer
Chairperson, ANC 1E



Josh Jacobson
Secretary, ANC 1E

CC:

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Chairman Phil Mendelson
Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau, Ward 1
Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2
Councilmember Matthew Frumin, Ward 3

Councilmember Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4
Councilmember Zachary Parker, Ward 5
Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6
Councilmember Vincent C. Gray, Ward 7
Councilmember Trayon White, Sr., Ward 8
Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie, At-Large
Councilmember Anita Bonds, At-Large
Councilmember Christina Henderson, At-Large
Councilmember Robert C. White Jr., At-Large