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2 Chairman Phil Mendelson

Councilmember Brandon T. Todd

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5 Councilmember Anita Bonds

Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

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8 Councilmember Charles Allen

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

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11 Councilmember Jack Evans

Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

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13 _____
14 Councilmember David Grosso

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17 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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20 COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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23 To posthumously celebrate the life and exemplary service of Ronald Austin, and
24 recognize his contributions to the District of Columbia Mayor’s Office, the Council
25 of the District of Columbia, residents, and the Greater Washington Metropolitan
26 Area.

27
28 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin, a native Washingtonian and Ward 4 resident for 61
29 years was fondly known as “Ron”;

30 WHEREAS, for over 45 years, Ronald Austin, through his leadership, vision, focus,
31 and dedication to serving the community, was an integral part of District of Columbia
32 politics and public service;

33 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin was revered by city officials and residents for setting
34 the standard of excellence and best practices for constituent services that are still in
35 practice today;

36 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin was fondly known to District government employees
37 and the community as Mr. Constituent Services;

38
39 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin was a vibrant and motivated youth, at the age of 14
40 served as the Youth Chairman where he provided a "youth perspective" to local city

41 issues, as a teenager he honed his leadership skills upon being elected to the
42 Neighborhood Planning Council, a precursor to Advisory Neighborhood Commissions;

43 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin furthered his community service at Fort Stevens
44 Recreation Center where he was a positive role model to the young men in Ward 4. He
45 excelled as a coach, and he led his team to victory winning numerous basketball
46 tournaments. His contributions were instrumental in shaping and influencing young
47 men and he guided them to successful and productive lives through nurturing and
48 mentorship;

49 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin progressed from an intern at the Department of
50 Recreation into a variety of roles over 24 years;

51 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin acquired his love for politics and public services from
52 his first position at the Council of the District of Columbia in Councilmember John Ray's
53 Office;

54 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin served as Director of Constituents Services for then
55 Councilmember Adrian Fenty and later as Constituent Services Coordinator for then
56 Councilmember Muriel Bowser;

57 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin is still considered one of the most effective Constituent
58 Services Directors in the memorable past;

59
60 WHEREAS, Ron served as Director for the Mayor's Office of the Clean City,
61 where he coordinated with District's litter prevention activities and best practices to
62 keep the District clean, safe, and healthy;

63 WHEREAS, while working at the Council of the District of Columbia, Ronald
64 Austin also served for many years as an ANC 4B Commissioner where he also held the
65 position of Chair;

66 WHEREAS, early in his career, Ronald Austin served as the Director of
67 Transportation for the National Children's Center;

68 WHEREAS, as Director of Transportation for the National Children's Center,
69 Ronald Austin diligently implemented cutting edge policies and procedures to ensure
70 handicap students were safely transported to and from their destination;

71 WHEREAS, during his time at the National Children's Center, Ronald Austin
72 received numerous accolades and commendations;

73
74 WHEREAS, after his retirement, Ronald Austin continued to serve his
75 community as the Chair of the Citizen's Advisory Council for MPD's Fourth District;

76

77 WHEREAS, Ronald founded the Helping Hand Foundation, an organization that
78 provides support to non-profits organizations and residents in need; and

79
80 WHEREAS, Ronald Austin was a graduate of Coolidge High School and
81 continued to be an active member of the high school’s alumni association.

82 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
83 resolution may be cited as the “Ronald Austin Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of
84 2018”.

85 Sec. 2. The Council posthumously recognizes Ronald Austin for his unwavering
86 commitment to serving the residents of Ward 4 and success as a champion for excellence
87 in constituent services.

88 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of
89 publication in the District of Columbia Register.