

**PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE ON
BILL 15-1034, “DOUGLASS KNOLL, GOLDEN RULE,
1728 W STREET, AND WAGNER GAINESVILLE REAL
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION ACT OF 2004”**

**Before the
Committee on Finance and Revenue
Council of the District of Columbia**

The Honorable Jack Evans, Chairman

**November 18, 2004, 11:00 a.m.
Council Chamber, John A. Wilson Building**



**Testimony of
Daniel L. Black, Jr.
Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Office of Tax and Revenue**

**Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer
Government of the District of Columbia**

Good morning, Chairman Evans, and members of the Committee on Finance and Revenue. I am Daniel L. Black, Jr., deputy chief financial officer for the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR). I am pleased to present testimony today on Bill 15-1034, the “Douglass Knoll, Golden Rule, 1728 W Street, and Wagner Gainesville Real Property Tax Exemption Act of 2004.”

The purpose of this bill is to provide relief from tax law requirements in connection with assessment of real property valuation in the District. The “Douglass Knoll, Golden Rule, 1728 W Street and Wagner Gainesville Real Property Tax Exemption Act of 2004,” introduced by Chairman Evans, provides exemption for qualified, low-income housing projects. This exemption covers four parcels of real property and is established for fifteen years, so long as the properties continue to be owned by federally-approved charitable organizations and are used for low-income housing projects.

OTR has closely reviewed the three bills before the committee today, as well as the underlying activities to which they relate, as is our policy for any proposed or requested exemption or abatement of real property from District taxes and other fees for which taxpayers may qualify under section 1002 et seq. of Title 47 of the District Code. This policy ensures that OTR is carrying out the intent of the Council to exempt or abate real property taxes and fees only for those purposes that advance the public policy interests of the District and its citizens.

While there has not been adequate time to conduct fiscal impact analysis on these three bills before today’s hearing, it is our understanding that our colleagues in the

Office of Revenue Analysis will provide this committee with the fiscal impact statements on these bills in time for the committee's markup.

Thank you, Chairman Evans, for the opportunity to comment on this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions you or other councilmembers might have at this time.

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