Business and Entrepreneurship Support to Thrive Amendment Act of 2021, Bill 24-301

Before the Committee of the Whole Council of the District of Columbia

The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairman

February 7, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.



Comments of William Bowie, Senior Counsel Office of Tax and Revenue Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Fitzroy Lee Acting Chief Financial Officer Government of the District of Columbia Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on behalf of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer on Bill 24-301, the Business and Entrepreneurship Support to Thrive Amendment Act of 2021 (Bill). The Bill seeks to amend D.C. Official Code § 47-2851.05 by adding a new paragraph to read: "To the extent feasible, each basic business license shall have a unique identifying number to be used for all official purposes, including taxation." See Page 22, Line 477.

The Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) uses either a Federal Employer Identification Number or a Social Security Number as a unique identifier for processing tax returns. This is consistent with the processing of Federal Tax Information and the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding that OTR has with the Internal Revenue Service.

Thus, the use of any other type of identifier, such as proposed by the Bill, would not be feasible for OTR to administer. We ask that this language be stricken. If you have any questions about these comments, please contact me at (202) 442-6512 or <u>William.Bowie@dc.gov</u>.