## Residential Composting Incentives Amendment Act of 2017, Bill 22-501

**Before the Committee on Transportation and the Environment** 

The Honorable Mary Cheh, Chairperson

December 7, 2017, 10:00 AM Room 412, John A. Wilson Building



Comments by Elissa Borges Assistant General Counsel Office of Tax and Revenue

Jeffrey S. DeWitt Chief Financial Officer Government of the District of Columbia Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Bill 22-501, the "Residential Composting Incentives Amendment Act of 2017."

In general, the Bill would create a Home Composting Incentive Program to be administered by the Mayor that would provide tax exempt rebates or vouchers for the purchase of a home composting system. As a general matter, the program created by the Bill will be administered by the Mayor, rather than the Chief Financial Officer, and I accordingly leave comments and recommendations on administrative issues to the Mayor.

The Office of Tax and Revenue ("OTR"), however, suggests that the Bill could be clarified regarding the tax provision in Bill that would exclude any rebates or vouchers from a taxpayer's District of Columbia income tax. A specific provision in the District of Columbia Code — Section 47-1803.02(a)(2) — already provides for the exclusion of various items from the computation of District gross income. It would facilitate the administration of the proposed new exclusion under this Bill if it was expressly included in Section 47-1803.02(a)(2). Accordingly, OTR suggests the following technical changes to the Bill:

- 1. In Section 2(b), strike proposed subsection 112a(e).
- 2. A new section, Section 3, is added to the Bill, to read as follows:
- Sec. 3. Section 47-1803.02(a)(2) of the District of Columbia Code is amended by adding a new subparagraph (DD) to read as follows:

"(DD) An amount received by a taxpayer pursuant to the Home Composting Incentive Program under [§ 8-1031.12a]."

- 3. Renumber Section 3 as Section 4.
- 4. Renumber Section 4 as Section 5.