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Endorsement of the Immigrant Justice Legal Services Grant Program

Resolved, that ANC 1D endorses the DC Government’s newly created Immigrant Justice Legal Services (IJLS) grant program, encourages Mount Pleasant residents to participate in the programs and services funded from it as appropriate, and recommends its continuation in the future. With this grant program, Mayor Bowser has responded to the immigration activists who called for her leadership on immigration issues at ANC 1D’s November 2016 meeting, in a substantive and effective manner.

Why: Between 20% and 30% of Mount Pleasant residents are foreign-born, many of whom fled violence in Central America, whether decades ago or in recent years. Many other Mount Pleasant residents are descendants of immigrants, at most a few generations removed from similar circumstances and beneficiaries of less punitive federal immigration policies. Legal representation is an essential right human right and should be afforded to both citizens and non-citizens in DC. The IJLS grant program will fund a variety of programs and services towards this goal, and leverage taxpayer dollars further by allowing for contributions of time and talent from private citizens and organizations.

Passed by 5 to 0 vote at the legally noticed, public meeting of ANC1D on January 24, 2017, with a quorum present. Voting “yes”: Commissioners Stewart, Romero-Latin, Karaffa, Karrer, McKay. A quorum for this commission is three; five commissioners were present.