



Council of the District of Columbia

Resolution

COUNCILMEMBER BONDS

CHAIRMAN MENDELSON

COUNCILMEMBER NADEAU

COUNCILMEMBER R. WHITE

COUNCILMEMBER SILVERMAN

COUNCILMEMBER T. WHITE

COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN
COUNCILMEMBER GRAY

COUNCILMEMBER CHEH
COUNCILMEMBER GROSSO
COUNCILMEMBER TODD

COUNCILMEMBER EVANS
COUNCILMEMBER McDUFFIE

THE NATIONAL CO-OP RECOGNITION RESOLUTION OF 2019

WHEREAS, A LIMITED-EQUITY COOPERATIVE (LEC) IS AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING MODEL WHEREBY LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO PURCHASE HOUSING SHARES AT BELOW MARKET PRICES, THEREBY MAKING HOME OWNERSHIP POSSIBLE TO MANY MORE FAMILIES;

WHEREAS, THE RESALE PRICE OF MEMBERSHIP SHARES IS LIMITED IN AN LEC IN ORDER TO KEEP THE HOUSING AFFORDABLE FOR FUTURE LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME RESIDENTS;

WHEREAS, LECS ARE UNIQUELY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT BRING A WIDE VARIETY OF SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS, RESOURCES, AND SERVICES TO ITS MEMBERS AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES, AND CAN BE OF PARTICULAR USE IN ALLEVIATING THE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS FOUND IN MAJOR URBAN AREAS OF OUR COUNTRY;

WHEREAS, THE EXISTENCE OF THE COOPERATIVE MODEL DATES BACK TO THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WITH LIMITED RESOURCES TO UNITE AND FULFILL THE NEEDS OF THE LARGER GROUP;

WHEREAS, IN THE 1950S THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ESTABLISHED SECTION 213 OF THE NATIONAL HOUSING ACT (12 U.S.C. 1715E), WHICH ENABLED NONPROFIT COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATIONS AND TRUSTS TO FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING COMMUNITIES TO BE OPERATED AS COOPERATIVES;

WHEREAS, NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH HAS BEEN A NATIONALLY OBSERVED CELEBRATION SINCE 1964, WHEN FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE ORVILLE FREEMAN PROCLAIMED OCTOBER AS "NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH", WITH THE THEME FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL OBSERVANCE BEING "CO-OPS: BY THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY";

WHEREAS, THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ESTABLISHED THE LIMITED EQUITY COOPERATIVE TASK FORCE TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW THE DISTRICT CAN ASSIST IN THE FORMATION OF NEW LIMITED-EQUITY COOPERATIVES AND TO HELP CURRENTLY STRUGGLING LECS IMPROVE THEIR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES AND FINANCIAL SITUATIONS TO ACHIEVE FINANCIALLY STABILITY;

WHEREAS, LECS REQUIRE ASSISTANCE FROM A GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF A CONTINUALLY SUCCESSFUL LEC; AND

WHEREAS, THE LIMITED-EQUITY COOPERATIVE TASK FORCE HAS FOUND THAT THE EXISTENCE OF LIMITED EQUITY COOPERATIVES WILL HELP ALLEVIATE THE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SHOULD SUPPORT EFFORTS TO BETTER TRAIN AND ENGAGE OWNERS.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THAT THIS RESOLUTION MAY BE CITED AS "THE NATIONAL CO-OP RECOGNITION RESOLUTION OF 2019".

SEC. 2. THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZES AND CELEBRATES NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE COOPERATIVE BUSINESS MODEL, PARTICULARLY THE LIMITED-EQUITY COOPERATIVE HOUSING MODEL, BUILDS STRONGER COMMUNITIES AND CAN BE USED TO EFFECTIVELY COMBAT THE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.


CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

I hereby Certify that this Resolution is true and adopted as stated herein.

Resolution Number: CER 23-165

Date: September 17, 2019


SECRETARY TO THE COUNCIL