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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC
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Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
Chair, Board of Zoning Adjustment
Suite 210
441 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Jewish Primary Day School application for temporary occupancy at 7701 and 7712 Sixteenth Street, N.W.

Dear Ms. Reid:

I am writing in support of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital's application before the Board of Zoning Adjustment. The Jewish Primary Day School is the only Jewish Day School in the District of Columbia, and it has been recognized for the quality of its educational curriculum and faculty as well as for the achievements of its students.

While I do not have children, I support JPDS for the following reasons. First, I believe strongly in the viability of the District. However, I have seen too many of my friends move to the suburbs recently, in large part because they are having children and are concerned about the availability of quality schools in the District. Since JPDS opened, I have had many friends make the decision to buy homes in the District and to stay here because of the school. I am told that more than half of the JPDS parents are District residents, and I believe if the school's future were assured, many more would prefer to live closer in.

Second, I believe that parents should have options for their children's education, especially at a time when the District's public school system remains unstable. While I am a supporter of public schools, there are already many private options in the District, including parochial schools, and I believe it is only fair that one of these options be a parochial school option for Jewish families.

I strongly urge you to approve JPDS's application to remain in the District. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Julia R. Gordon

BZA
Case No.
Exhibit No. 200

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.200