

ZONING COMMISSION
District of ColumbiaCASE NO. 06-06 FAXEXHIBIT NO. 21Testimony in reference to 06-06
May 11, 2006

May 9, 2006

To: DC Zoning Commission
Washington, DCRECEIVED
DC OFFICE OF ZONING
2006 MAY 11 AM 10 09

Dear Zoning Commission:

We are writing on behalf of the of the District of Columbia Association for the Education of Young Children, and The Washington Association of Child Care Centers, and other childcare professionals responsible for the care and education of ALL children to express our opposition to passing "emergency restrictions" that would take away the rights for all small schools to locate in the city's residential neighborhoods. We are opposed to any consideration to any changes that deny children and their families to choice with respect to where their children attend schools and in what neighborhoods.

The proposed restrictions would prevent new, small schools where we Need them-in our neighborhoods. The District of Columbia has too many failing schools, we need schools that work, and schools that provide more choice for parents and guardians. Research shows that small schools work better. If schools are not located in neighborhoods, where will they be?

The proposed changes are anti family, schools should be in neighborhoods, not industrial zones. We believe these proposed changes benefit well-connected special interests at the expense of families with children, and further that families had no input into this proposed process.

These proposed " emergency restrictions" also make it harder for childcare professionals to provide quality schools that serve our children. It is important to have schools in neighborhoods that prepare children at an early age to become the skilled workforce of the future,

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.06-06
EXHIBIT NO.21

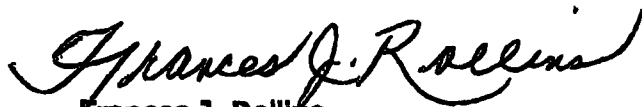
which will enable us to remain globally competitive. We need well educated and skilled workers to fill jobs in the future.

The real "emergency" is the way these proposed changes were put through with no process or input from the people they affect the most. As well as these amendments unfairly attempt to change the rules in the middle of the process and hurt the schools, communities, and working parents and guardians in the District of Columbia.

Children and youth as a whole are endangered in the District of Columbia, it our responsibility as parents, educators, community leaders and the like to provide an appropriate education for our children to equip them as contributing members of society, and to assist them in developing the skills necessary to make critical decisions they need to stay healthy, safe and happy for the rest of their lives. Children should not have to worry whether there will be schools in their neighborhoods that provide opportunities for them to flourish.

We urge the Zoning Commission to consider the children, not pass regulations that do not benefit them.

Thank you for your consideration to this testimony.



Frances J. Rollins
President

District of Columbia Association for
the Education of Young Children

Southeast Children's Fund, Inc
sechild@erols.com
4224 6th Street, SE
Washington, DC
(202) 561-5736
Fax (202) 561-0596

Fax

2006 MAY 11 AM 10:09

DC OFFICE OF ZONING

RECEIVED

To: Ms. Sharon Schellin From: Ms. Frances J. Rollins
Fax: 202-727-6072 Pages: 2 + COVER
Phone: 202-727-0340 Date: 5/10/06
Re: _____ CC: _____

☐ Urgent ☒ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

• Comments:

Attached is the testimony for zoning Commission
Case # 06-06 scheduled for 5/11/06
at 6:30 P.M. You may reach me on
202-253-5211 (cell) with any questions.

Thank you -
Frances J. Rollins