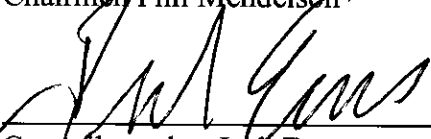




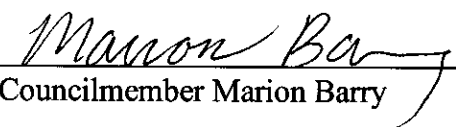
Chairman Phil Mendelson



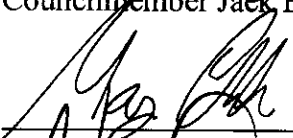
Councilmember David A. Catania



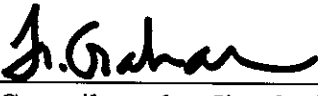
Councilmember Jack Evans



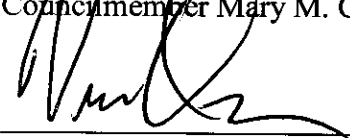
Councilmember Marion Barry



Councilmember Mary M. Cheh



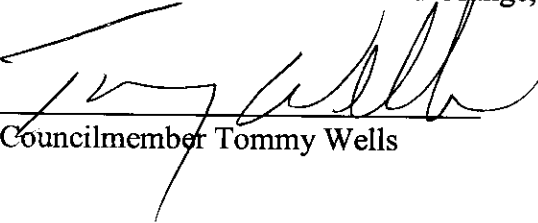
Councilmember Jim Graham



Councilmember Vincent Bernard Orange, Sr.



Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie



Councilmember Tommy Wells

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Councilmember David A. Catania introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To amend section 47-355.05 of the District of Columbia Official Code to require the Chief Financial Officer to submit to the Council and the Mayor audits and reports conducted by its Office of Integrity and Oversight within 15 days of completion, a list of incomplete or ongoing audits and reports that have been or are being conducted by its Office of Integrity and Oversight on a quarterly basis, and an audit plan for its Office of Integrity and Oversight on a yearly basis; to establish the Office of Tax and Revenue Ombudsman Program within the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and to establish the autonomy of the Office of Integrity and Oversight with regard to its independent review of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's operations and programs; and to provide that the executive director of the Office of Integrity and Oversight shall be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer for a term of 5 years and removed only for cause.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
2 act may be cited as the "Office of the Chief Financial Officer Audit Report Transparency Act of
3 2013 ".

4 Sec. 2. Section 47-355.05 of the District of Columbia Official Coode is amended by
5 adding a new subsection (f) to read as follows:

6 “(f)(1) The Chief Financial Officer shall submit to the Council and the Mayor:

7 “(A) Within 15 days of completion, each audit and report conducted by the Office
8 of Integrity and Oversight;

9 “(B) On a quarterly basis, an up-to-date list of each incomplete or on-going audit
10 or report that has been or is being conducted by the Office of Integrity and Oversight; and,

11 “(C) By October 1st of each year, an annual audit plan for the Office of Integrity
12 and Oversight.

13 “(2) The Chief Financial Officer shall post all completed audits and reports
14 conducted by the Office of Integrity and Oversight on the website of Office of the Chief
15 Financial Officer within 15 days of completion.”

16 Sec. 3. The Office of Integrity and Oversight Ombudsman Program.

17 (a) As of October 1, 2013, there is established the within the Office of Integrity and
18 Oversight the Office of Integrity and Oversight’s Ombudsman Program (“Ombudsman
19 Program”) to assist, advise, and inform District residents.

20 (b) The mission of the Ombudsman Program is to instill confidence and integrity in the
21 administration of the District’s tax laws by ensuring adherence to the letter and spirit of the law.

22 (c) The Ombudsman Program shall be independent of the Office of Tax and Revenue.

23 (d) The Ombudsman, or his or her designee, shall:

1 (1) Educate District residents about District tax law and of their corresponding
2 rights and responsibilities;

3 (2) Assist District residents in reviewing and resolving problems or complaints
4 concerning taxes and assist residents in navigating the complexities of the District's tax appeal
5 system;

6 (3) Ensure that all District residents are aware of and afforded their rights in all
7 communications with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer;

8 (4) Identify and provide information regarding problems and concerns of residents
9 and make recommendations for resolving those problems and concerns to:

10 (A) The Council of the District of Columbia; and,

11 (B) The Office of Tax and Revenue;

12 (5) Implement innovative strategies and adopt tools to maximize outreach to
13 District residents;

14 (6) Work jointly, when appropriate, with other District agencies or organizations
15 to promote greater governmental efficiency; and

16 (7) Comment on behalf of District residents on related tax policy legislation and
17 regulations in the District.

18 (d) The Ombudsman Program may use volunteers with appropriate training and
19 supervision to assist with counseling, outreach, and other tasks to assist District residents and
20 their representatives in the resolution of their problems as quickly as possible, and ensure that all
21 residents are aware of and afforded their rights in all communications with the Office of the
22 Chief Financial Officer.

1 (e) The Ombudsman Program shall work to identify departmental procedures that create a
2 hardship for taxpayers and proposing solutions that will assist them with meeting their tax
3 compliance obligations.

4 Sec. 4. Executive director.

5 There shall be the Executive Director of the Office of Integrity and Oversight who shall
6 be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer for a term of 5 years and may only be removed for
7 cause.

8 Sec. 5. Independence of the Office of Integrity and Oversight.

9 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Office of Integrity and Oversight shall
10 operate independent funding of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer shall review the
11 operations and programs of Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

12 Sec. 6. Fiscal impact statement.

13 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
14 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,
15 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02).

16 Sec. 7. Effective date.

17 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
18 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and a 30-day period of Congressional review
19 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
20 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02), and publication in the District of
21 Columbia Register.