

AN ACT

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Columbia  
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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend the Office of Administrative Hearings Establishment Act of 2001 to delay the transfer to the Office of Administrative Hearings of the adjudicatory functions for all cases under the jurisdiction of the Rent Administrator in the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs until October 1, 2006, and to reduce the terms of reappointed administrative law judges from 10 years to 6 years.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Office of Administrative Hearings Term Amendment Act of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Office of Administrative Hearings Establishment Act of 2001, effective March 6, 2002 (D.C. Law 14-76; D.C. Official Code § 2-1831.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

(a) Section 6(b-1)(1) (D.C. Official Code § 2-1831.03 (b-1)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

Amend  
§ 2-15831.03

“(1) In addition to those agencies listed in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, as of October 1, 2006, this act shall apply to adjudicated cases under the jurisdiction of the Rent Administrator in the Department of Consumer Regulatory Affairs.”

(b) Section 7 (D.C. Official Code § 2-1831.04) is amended as follows:

Amend  
§ 2-15831.04

(1) Subsection (d) is amended by striking the phrase “10-year term” and inserting the phrase “6-year term” in its place.

(2) Subsection (e) is amended by striking the phrase “10-year term” and inserting the phrase “6-year term” in its place.

(c) Section 11(c) (D.C. Official Code § 2-1831.08(c)) is amended as follows:

Amend  
§ 2-15831.08

(1) Designate the existing text as paragraph (1).

(2) The newly designated paragraph (1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) The initial term of office of an Administrative Law Judge appointed prior to December 6, 2005 shall be 2 years, at the end of which the Administrative Law Judge shall be eligible for reappointment by the Commission to a term of 10 years. After serving an initial

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reappointment term of 10 years, the Administrative Law Judge shall be eligible for reappointment by the Commission to a new term of 6 years.”.

(3) New paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) are added to read as follows:

“(2) The initial term of office of an Administrative Law Judge hired after December 5, 2005, shall be 2 years, at the end of which the Administrative Law Judge shall be eligible for reappointment by the Commission to a term of 6 years.

“(3) At the expiration of any 6-year term of office, an Administrative Law Judge shall be eligible for reappointment by the Commission to a new term of 6 years.

“(4) Non-reappointment of an Administrative Law Judge shall not be deemed to be discipline or removal of the Administrative Law Judge.”.

(d) Section 13(a) (D.C. Official Code § 2-1831.10(a)) is amended by striking the phrase “any 2-year or 10-year term” and inserting the phrase “any 2-year, 6-year, or 10-year term” in its place.

Amend  
§ 2-15831.10

(e) Section 19(b) (D.C. Official Code § 2-1831.16(b)) is amended by striking the second sentence and inserting the following in its place: “The Rental Housing Commission shall have jurisdiction to review orders of the Office in all adjudicated cases brought pursuant to the Rental Housing Act of 1985, effective July 17, 1985 (D.C. Law 6-10; D.C. Official Code § 42-3501.01 *et seq.*)”.

Amend  
§ 2-15831.16

**Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.**

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

**Sec. 4. Effective date.**

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December

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24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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Chairman  
Council of the District of Columbia

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Mayor  
District of Columbia