



HEARING NOTES

Council Resolution: 22-0137R

Informational Hearing – Hiring Initiatives – Spanish Speakers

Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth (EWY)

Chaired By: Councilman Stokes

Hearing Date: October 12, 2023
Time (Beginning): 10:18 AM
Time (Ending): 11:38 AM
Location: Clarence “Du” Burns Chambers
Total Attendance: Approx. 20
Committee Members in Attendance:
Robert Stokes Odette Ramos
Phylicia Porter James Torrence
John Bullock

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Motioned by:	Councilmember Torrence		
Seconded by:	Councilmember Green Middleton		
Final Vote:	Favorable		

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Lisa Allen (Call Center Director for 311, Baltimore City Information and Technology)
 - Deborah Brooks (Mayor's Executive Director, Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success)
 - Mr. Brockington (Representative, Baltimore Department of Social Service)
 - Lucia Islas (President of Com Latino)
 - Juliana Valencia Banks (Member of the Mayor's Hispanic Commission and the Latino Racial Justice Circle)
 - Eda Pentes Martinez (Research and Policy Analyst, Casa de Maryland)
 - Susanna Baros (Vice President, Latino Racial Justice Circle)
 - Angelo Solera (Founder and Executive Director, Noas Raices Inc)
 - Romeal Marmolejos: Resident
 - Daniela McDonald: (Human Services Manager, Baltimore City Community Action Partnership)
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Major Issues Discussed

1. Hiring of Spanish speakers for employment in Baltimore City government.
 2. Language access and accessibility of services to non-English-speaking residents.
 3. The use of technology and human interpreters to bridge the language gap.
 4. Plans for expanding language access services to other city agencies and public meetings.
 5. Steps taken by different departments and agencies to ensure language access and inclusivity.
 6. The importance of hiring and training bilingual staff, as well as promoting cultural competency among city employees, was a recurring topic.
 7. The need for representation of the Latino community in city government and the recognition that it goes beyond just language access was highlighted.
 8. Cultural competency training was highlighted as a key aspect of addressing language barriers, as it is crucial for public servants to understand and respect the diverse cultures of the residents they serve.
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Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe.

1. Councilwoman Odette requested information about the presence of Latinos in the permit office and other front-facing offices and inquired about steps being taken in that direction.
 2. Councilwoman Ramos expressed the need to establish metrics and data collection to better understand the Latino population in Baltimore City.
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Committee Vote:

R. Stokes, Sr :..... **Yea**
J. Bullock :..... **Yea**
S. Green Middleton :..... **Yea**
P. Porter :..... **Yea**
J. Torrence :..... **Yea**
Z. Cohen :..... **Absent**
A. Glover :..... **Absent**

Deontre Hayes

Committee Staff: Deontre L. Hayes

Date: October 24, 2023

Direct Inquiries to: (410) 396-1260

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND YOUTH VOTING RECORD

DATE: October 12, 2023

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

BILL TITLE: 22-0137R - Informational Hearing - Hiring Initiatives - Spanish Speakers

MOTION BY: Torrence, J SECONDED BY: Middleton, S

FAVORABLE

FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

UNFAVORABLE

WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Stokes, R.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bullock, J.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Porter, P.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glover, A.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Torrence, J.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cohen, Z.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middleton, S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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TOTALS				

CHAIRPERSON: _____

COMMITTEE STAFF: Deontre Hayes, Initials: *DH*



Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

Subject: Legislative Oversight – Informational Hearing – Hiring Initiatives – Spanish Speakers	LO22-0137
Committee: Education, Workforce and Youth	Chair: Robert Stokes, Sr.
Date: Thursday, October 12, 2023	Time: 10:01 AM
Location: Council Chambers	

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY



First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email	Testify	What is your position on this bill?		Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*	
				For	Against	Yes	No
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
X		1020 Kenilworth DR					
/	Susana Barri Barrios	SusanaBarrios@me.com	✓	✓			
*	Guiliana Valera	1310 Medfield Ave Latino Racial Justice Ctr. valencia.jc@gmail.com	✓	✓			
	Angelo Solera	3403 Gough St. 21224					
	Romel Marmoligos	3403 Gough St 21224					

*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Meeting Minutes - Final

Education Workforce and Youth

Thursday, October 12, 2023

10:01 AM Virtual/Du Burns Chambers, City Hall, 4th Floor, Phone:
+1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2332 456 3949, Password:
Public, Link: [https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?
MTID=m973f1968a94d5bed90f0594603f36360](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=m973f1968a94d5bed90f0594603f36360)

22-0137R

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

Present 5 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Sharon Green Middleton, Phylicia Porter, and James Torrence
Absent 2 - Zeke Cohen, and Antonio Glover

ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

22-0137R

Informational Hearing - Hiring Initiatives - Spanish Speakers

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Transportation, the Department of General Services, the Office of Equity and Civil Rights, and the Baltimore City Public School System to discuss the hiring of Spanish speakers for employment in City government.

Sponsors: Odette Ramos, Zeke Cohen, Ryan Dorsey, Mark Conway, Kristerfer Burnett

A motion was made by Torrence, seconded by Middleton, that this City Council Resolution be Recommended Favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Stokes Sr., Bullock, Middleton, Porter, and Torrence

Absent: 2 - Cohen, and Glover

ADJOURNMENT