

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REPEAL OF CURRENT PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS ON WMATA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ALTERNATES**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metrorail system is the most significant regional transportation system and plays a critical role in meeting the National Capital Region's socio-economic and mobility needs and has served this need for the past 40 years; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, the region's local governments and states worked together to pass unprecedented legislation in the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, and the Commonwealth of Virginia to establish dedicated funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Collectively committing an additional \$500 million a year to fund essential capital improvements to the Metro system; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation passed by the Commonwealth of Virginia, VA Code § 33.2-1526.1(L) currently results in a reduction of funding if WMATA Alternate Directors participate in board or committee meetings when directors are present; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board of Directors believes the current limitations on Alternate Directors restricts their ability to access the necessary information and knowledge to effectively serve in their roles as WMATA Board Alternate Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, as stated in the COG 2022 Legislative Priorities, the COG Board supports the repeal of VA Code § 33.2-1526.1(L) and amendment of WMATA Bylaws Article II.11 and Article III.3.a, and otherwise as necessary, to allow Alternate Directors to participate in all board and committee meetings irrespective of the presence of the alternate's respective Director.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The board urges the Commonwealth of Virginia to repeal VA Code § 33.2-1526.1(L) which currently results in a reduction of funding if WMATA Alternate Directors participate in board or committee meetings when directors are present. Subsequent to amendment of this statute, the board urges the amendment of WMATA Bylaws Article II.11 and Article III.3.a, and otherwise as necessary, to allow Alternate Directors to participate in all board and committee meetings irrespective of the presence of the alternate's respective Director. The board directs the Executive Director, or his designee, to send a letter to leadership of the Virginia legislature and appropriate committees stating COG's position.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors  
January 12, 2022  
Janele Partman  
COG Communications Specialist**