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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

MAR 27 2019

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2214 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995, approved April 26, 1996 (110 Stat. 1321; D.C. Official Code § 38-1802.14 (2018 Repl.)), and section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01 (2018 Supp.)), I am pleased to nominate the following person for reappointment:

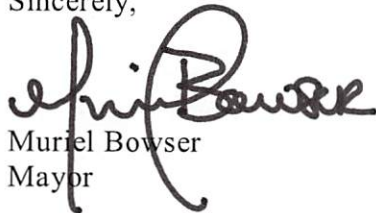
Ms. Saba Bireda
1438 V Street, SE
Washington, D.C. 20020
(Ward 8)

Ms. Bireda will serve as a member of the Public Charter School Board, for a term to end February 24, 2023.

Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,


Muriel Bowser
Mayor



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,
which was referred to the Committee on _____

To confirm the reappointment of Saba Bireda to the Public Charter School Board.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Public Charter School Board Saba Bireda Confirmation Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Ms. Saba Bireda
1438 V Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
(Ward 8)

as a member of the Public Charter School Board, established by section 2214 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995, approved April 26, 1996 (110 Stat. 1321; D.C. Official Code § 38-1802.14), for a term to end February 24, 2023.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SABA BIREDA



EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, Juris Doctor, June 2007

Activities: Executive Articles Editor, *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*
Teaching Fellow, Professor Lani Guinier, “The Responsibilities of Public Lawyers”
Student Attorney, Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative (Special Education Clinic)

Stanford University, B.A. in English and Political Science, Minor in African and African-American Studies, June 2001

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC

July 2013 – present

Member of senior political staff

Office of the General Counsel, Senior Counsel

May 2015 – present

- Advise the General Counsel on legal issues related to postsecondary education and other areas of federal education law
- Collaborate with the U.S. Department of Justice on False Claims Act investigations related to the federal student loan program
- Lead investigations of for-profit schools regarding allegations of Title IV (Higher Education Act) violations, including the development of document requests and subpoenas, coordination of data review, and communication with opposing counsel
- Litigating Title IV enforcement action against national for-profit university
- Review Department policies and initiatives for compliance with federal civil rights laws

Office for Civil Rights, Senior Counsel

July 2013 – May 2015

- Provided legal and policy counsel to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights regarding strategic questions of civil rights law, administrative law, and federal education law
- Co-authored legal guidance to state and local education agencies on the civil rights of students in juvenile justice facilities
- Represented OCR in cross-agency workgroups related to correctional education, school discipline, and teacher equity
- Developed legal strategies for potential administrative actions based on OCR statutes and regulations
- Investigated allegations of racially discriminatory discipline in a suburban school district
- Reviewed Department policies and initiatives for compliance with federal civil rights laws
- Provided technical assistance on school discipline and juvenile justice guidance to OCR stakeholders

EducationCounsel LLC, Policy and Legal Advisor, Washington, DC

March 2012 – July 2013

- Advised clients at state higher education agencies, state education agencies, and charter management organizations on legal issues related to compliance with federal and state civil rights laws
- Conducted comprehensive legal review and revisions of student conduct handbook and policies for two large research universities
- Advised state university system in settlement negotiations with the Dept. of Education’s Office for Civil Rights
- Researched and drafted section of amicus brief submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Fisher v. University of Texas*
- Acted as legal and policy advisor to the Commission on the Regulation of Postsecondary Distance Education including drafting of key Commission documents and policy recommendations

Poverty and Race Research Action Council, Deputy Director, Washington, DC

Jan. 2011 – March 2012

- Assisted in the management and strategic planning for national civil rights advocacy and policy organization
- Represented housing advocacy organization in federal fair housing case as co-counsel with Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC
- Analyzed proposed regulations related to federal housing and education programs and provided comments on behalf of coalition of civil rights organizations
- Represented PRRAC on Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights Education Task Force

- Center for American Progress, Education Policy Analyst, Washington, DC** Sep. 2009 – Dec. 2010
- Performed policy research and developed policy recommendations and reports for national education policy audience
 - Provided legal analysis related to federal laws including the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Individuals with Disabilities Act, and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
 - Authored “Devil in the Details: An Analysis of State Teacher Dismissal Laws” (June 2010)

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Philadelphia Bar Foundation Fellow, Philadelphia, PA Sept. 2007– Aug. 2009
Participated in two-year public service fellowship sponsored by Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

- (Year 2) Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Litigation Associate** Aug. 2008 – Aug. 2009
- Represented corporate clients in state and federal litigation including class action lawsuit in California state court
 - Researched and drafted summary judgment motions, motions to dismiss, and discovery responses for corporate litigation matters in state and federal court
 - Performed document review, prepared clients for depositions, and drafted research memos on behalf of corporate defendants in two qui tam lawsuits brought under the False Claims Act
 - Represented suspended and expelled students in district and charter school administrative hearings

- (Year 1) Education Law Center, Staff Attorney** Sept. 2007 – Aug. 2008
- Represented suspended and expelled students in state court and school district administrative hearings
 - Provided legal advice to students returning to school from delinquency placements
 - Contributed research and analysis to comprehensive report on alternative disciplinary schools in Pennsylvania
 - Provided policy recommendations as a member of School District of Philadelphia alternative education task force
 - Drafted sections of School District of Philadelphia’s Code of Conduct to reflect policy changes on school discipline

- Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana, Legal Intern, New Orleans, LA** Summer 2005
- Represented incarcerated juvenile in disposition modification hearing
 - Developed drafts of juvenile justice and school discipline reform legislation

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- University of the District of Columbia School of Law, Adjunct Faculty, Washington, DC** 2011 – 2012
- Instructed “Lawyering Process” course for first-year law students including instruction on brief writing, legal research, and legal citation

- Sousa Middle School, Teacher, District of Columbia Public Schools, Washington, DC** 2002 – 2004
- Planned and instructed seventh and eighth grade English/Language Arts classes as a member of Teach for America corps

SELECT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker**, “How to Provide Quality Education for Youth in Juvenile Justice Facilities,” Education Law Center Training (April 24, 2015)
- Speaker**, National Association of Black Journalists Media Institute on Education (April 16, 2015)
- Keynote Speaker**, “Equity Issues in Discipline & School Climate Improvement: Policy & Best-Practice Strategies for New England Educators,” National School Climate Center and the Social-Emotional Learning Alliance for Massachusetts (December 12, 2014)
- Panelist**, “The Future of Latinos in Higher Education: Affirmative Action after the *Schuette* and *Fisher* Decisions,” Hispanic National Bar Association Annual Conference (September 12, 2014)
- Panelist**, “School Discipline and Alternatives,” Teach for America Educators Conference (July 18, 2014)
- Panelist**, “Affirmative Action and School Diversity after *Fisher*,” University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform Annual Symposium (February 22, 2014)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Youth Policy Forum, Board Member, Washington, DC** 2012 – present
- Provide strategic advice to national youth policy organization
- Advocates for Justice and Education, Pro Bono Counsel, Washington, DC** 2011 – 2013
- Represented suspended and expelled students in disciplinary hearings at the school and district level



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Saba Bireda



Ms. Saba Bireda is senior counsel in the Office of the General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Education and has been a member of the Public Charter School Board since 2015.

Prior to joining the Obama Administration, Ms. Bireda served as policy and legal advisor for an education consultancy providing strategic advice and legal analysis to clients at state education agencies, state-level entities, and nationally- and federally-focused organizations. Ms. Bireda also served as deputy director of the Poverty & Race Research Action Council where she provided management and strategic planning with a focus on education policy, analyzed and provided commentary on proposed legislation and regulations, and provided technical assistance to education advocates working on issues of educational equity. Ms. Bireda also worked for the Center for American Progress as an Education Policy Analyst where she researched and wrote issues briefs and reports on education policy topics including school improvement strategies, fiscal equity, and federal education law. Following her graduation from Harvard Law School, Bireda participated in a public service fellowship, in Philadelphia, where she worked as a staff attorney for the Education Law Center and as a litigation associate for an international law firm. Bireda began her career in education as a teacher at Sousa Middle School in Washington, DC.

A Ward 8 resident, Ms. Saba Bireda obtained her Bachelor of Arts in English and Political Science from Stanford University and a Juris Doctor from Harvard School of Law.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Alana Intrieri, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: February 8, 2019
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Ricarda Ganjam and Saba Bireda as members to the Public Charter School Board.

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Elizabeth Cavendish