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TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: David Whitaker, Director  
Legislative Policy Division Staff 

DATE: July 10, 2019

RE: **RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE QUALITIES OF THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE TO THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Councilmember Scott Benson requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE QUALITIES OF THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE TO THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

Attached, please find our draft of the aforementioned resolution.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

**RESOLUTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SCOTT BENSON**

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE QUALITIES OF THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE TO THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS,** The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural and physical welfare of Detroit's citizens and residents through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and

**WHEREAS,** In the near future, Governor Whitmer will make her second appointment to the Michigan Public Service Commission. This appointment will undoubtedly have a major impact on the city of Detroit; and

**WHEREAS,** The City of Detroit is developing a new Greenhouse Gas Ordinance designed to secure a health environment and a more sustainable future for our community, now more than ever, the decisions made by the Michigan Public Service Commission need to more closely align with the technological advancement and cutting edge environmental policy initiatives found in the local levels of government that will have a major impact of our environment and that can reduce the emission of greenhouse gases; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition, the city of Detroit with its high poverty rate has a population which is particularly vulnerable to being adversely impacted by the slightest increase in utilities cost; and

**WHEREAS,** Given these factors, it is paramount that the Governor consider a person for the position that can advocate for the interest of the residential consumers of energy, one who understands how the Michigan Public Service Commission's decisions may impact the average person. While it is important that this person has an understanding of the resource needs of the utility companies as well, it is essential that the person not have ties to utility companies or the organizations that support them. These firms have sufficient support with their own lobbyists; and

**WHEREAS,** Moreover, the person selected should be someone who engages with and listens to the community, remains abreast of the current technology, will uphold the public trust and possesses an excellent track record of being accountable to the average citizen; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** The Council recommends that the Governor selects a person for the Michigan Public Service Commission, that meets the qualities that are outlined in this resolution ; **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this resolution be forwarded Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan State Senate.

July 10, 2019