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TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: March 2, 2022

RE: **RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING THE RETURNING CITIZENS TASKFORCE**

Councilmember Fred Durhal III requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING THE RETURNING CITIZENS TASKFORCE.

Attached, please find our draft of the aforementioned resolution.

Attachment

BY COUNCIL MEMBER FRED DURHAL III:

RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING THE RETURNING CITIZENS TASKFORCE

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit is defining its' comeback through various large-scale development projects and initiatives designed to spur redevelopment within the neighborhoods across the City. While the city is being reinvigorated, it is imperative that we should encourage our returning citizens who continue on their path toward reform, by removing the barriers they face while trying to find a job, so they can sustain themselves and their families and to become fully integrated into our revitalized city; and

WHEREAS, In order to achieve the goal of successfully reintegrating this segment of Detroit citizenry, the Detroit City Council established the all-volunteer Returning Citizen's Task Force, which consists of a core group of returned citizens and service providers, to connect returning citizens to a range of service providers that task force members have vetted and approved, who work as a welcoming squad and "one-stop shop" for returning citizens; and

WHEREAS, Returning citizens are often faced with prejudice due to their criminal records, even after they have paid their debt to society, when they are simply seeking to better themselves, provide for their families, and rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS, Returning citizens and their advocates should be directly involved with policymaking, therefore, the City Council continues to recognize the need of the Returning Citizens Taskforce, which is a forum for those interested in advancing the needs of Detroit's returned citizen community to meet and share information and ideas; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council hereby reestablishes the Returning Citizens Taskforce effective immediately with meetings held monthly, continuing until December 31, 2025, and chaired by Council Member Fred Durhal III. The Returning Citizens Taskforce may include residents, representatives from the community, labor, the business sector, as well as any other individuals interested in participating.