



2019 OCT -4 PM 5:21

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

OCT - 4 2019

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

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

I am vetoing Bill 23-427, the "Commission on the Arts and Humanities Budget Subtitle Technical Emergency Amendment Act of 2019," because pursuant to the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Support Act (BSA) the Commission will transition to independence on October 1, 2019. The abrupt change made by Council has already caused confusion for Commissioners and Commission employees. This bill only creates further confusion and stress among staff who have been working diligently to ensure the Commission is able to run independently beginning October 1.

Further, while Council views this bill as a "technical" fix, I do not. The full range of legal consequences of inserting an applicability date that has already passed have not been determined. As such, I cannot support a bill without knowing, to the fullest extent, the impacts it will have on the District.

For the reasons stated above, I am vetoing Bill 23-427.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Muriel Bowser".

Muriel Bowser
Mayor