

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	2025 Legislative Agenda
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested of the resolution for the 2025 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly, which the Mayor and Council deem appropriate.
INITIATED BY:	Isaiah, Hugley, City Manager

Recommendation: Approval is requested of the resolution for the 2025 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly, which the Mayor and Council deem appropriate.

Background: Each year elected and appointed officials of the Columbus Consolidated Government develop a list of issues important to the citizens of Columbus that requires action by the Local Legislative Delegation. Once approved, a meeting will be held with the Delegation to explain the rationale behind these issues and to solicit their support. The Hometown Connection and Legislative Agenda meeting will be held on October 29, 2024.

Analysis: Staff, elected and appointed officials were asked to present issues they felt were important to the operation of city government. Research and justification for these issues were presented to the City Manager and a list was prepared for presentation to the Mayor/Council.

Financial Considerations: The City is expected to receive additional revenues if many of the issues are passed by the Georgia General Assembly.

Recommendations/Actions: Approve those resolutions, which the Mayor and Council deem appropriate.

1. ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES (APRN) LICENSING:

The Columbus Consolidated Government along with the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus chapter is requesting that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support legislation which would remove barriers to APRN practice whereby decreasing a delay in care for the citizens of Georgia's access to medication and treatment. APRN's have the advanced education and trusting relationships with their collaborating physicians to provide safe, effective healthcare services.

APRN's are currently issued an "authorization to practice" as an Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner under their RN's license. Independent licensing could allow them to be recognized separately from their RN license. *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Years)*

Explanation:

This SB 164 bill was vetoed Session (2023) at the request of the sponsor. In the 2024 Session, the language is anticipated to be amended for smoother implementation to handle the volume of applicants.

2. ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES (APRN'S) SIGNING DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE DISABILITY PARKING PERMITS:

The Columbus Consolidated Government along with the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus Chapter is requesting that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support legislation which would add APRN's to the list of the Department of Motor Vehicle's approved practitioners to sign disability parking permits. *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Years)*

Explanation:

APRN's are able to complete the physical examination for the DMV application for a handicap placard but not allowed to sign it which results in a delay of care waiting for the physician to sign it. Georgia is one of two states in USA where this total restriction remains.

Approval of the above proposed legislation will remove delays in patient care and treatment, increase access to optimal healthcare, and improve healthcare outcomes for the citizens of Georgia.

3. ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES (APRN'S) WRITING PERSCRIPTIONS FOR SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES:

The Columbus Consolidated Government along with the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus chapter is requesting that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce or support legislation which would authorize APRN's to write prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances: Stimulants-for ADHD, ADD for 30-day supply and Opiates prescriptions would be a 3-day supply with other criteria. *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker /Carry Over From Previous Years)*

Explanation:

APRN's already write prescriptions for schedule III, IV and V medications which treat conditions such as depression, anxiety, and opioid abuse. APRN's are not allowed to write for Stimulants (Ritalin, Adderall) for ADD/ADHD for adults' patients, but they assess and evaluate the behaviors/symptoms for the medications and send it to the physician to send to the pharmacy which often results in a delay in the patient receiving the medication. There is a proposed bill suggesting a three-day prescription for opiates in an emergency with other criteria. There is currently no bill pending to allow APRN's to prescribe stimulants. Georgia is one of two states in the United States where this restriction remains.

4. ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES (APRN'S) CERTIFYING ORDERS FOR HOME HEALTH AGENCY VISITS:

THE Columbus Consolidated Government along with the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus Chapter is requesting that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce or support legislation which would authorize APRN's to certify orders authorizing home health agencies to make home visits. *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Years)*

Explanation:

APRN's can assess, diagnose, and treat for most conditions requiring home health but are not able to order the services for home health that would allow for nursing services, physical or occupational therapy, to go into the home and prevent an exacerbation of symptoms. The order has to wait for the physician to sign it which may cause a delay of care, especially after an inpatient hospital stay. Georgia is one of the 11 states in the United States where this restriction remains.

5. MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS FOR ADULT ABUSE, NEGLECT & EXPLOITATION:

The Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting that the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support legislation requiring that the multidisciplinary teams for dealing with adult abuse, neglect and exploitation described in O.C.G.A. § 30-5-11 be mandatory in each judicial circuit of the State. *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Years)*

Explanation:

In 2018 legislation was passed to create another tool in the toolbox to combat elder abuse by allowing judicial districts in Georgia to create multidisciplinary teams to help address elder abuse and in the districts that have set up these teams, it has been a very effective tool. Updating the Adult Abuse Neglect & Exploitation Multidisciplinary Team Establishment Law to require all judicial districts to create multidisciplinary teams for coordination of local resources and response for adult abuse, exploitation and neglect would allow a uniform response to the needs of vulnerable adults throughout the State.

6. \$10 MILLION INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR HOME & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES:

The Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting that the local legislative delegation advocate for a \$10 Million increase in funding for Home and Community Based Services (HBCS) order to provide services in the home that help older Georgians stay in their homes and communities for longer and avoid the expense of nursing home care. *(Request of Councilor Toyia/Carry Over From Previous Years)*

Explanation:

The Non-Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Program provides services that promote health and independence. HCBS programs consistently demonstrate that services in the home help older Georgians stay in their homes and communities. On average, these services can help delay premature nursing home care by 51 months. In-home services include home delivered meals, adult day care, respite care, home modification and more. The longer a person is able to stay at home with support, the happier and healthier they are and the more it saves taxpayer dollars. The Georgia Council on Aging and the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (CO-AGE) members support the request to increase funding by \$10 Million.

7. SHORT TERM RENTALS:

The Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting the local legislative delegation support the GMA policy position on short-term rentals. The CCG supports local control of the regulation of short-term rentals as necessary for quality of life, public safety, and a competitive lodging marketplace. This Council urges the local delegation to support maintaining local control of units used as short-term rentals, subject to all applicable state laws and ordinances. (*Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Years*)

Explanation:

The current Georgia Municipal Association policy provides as follows: Short-term or vacation rentals are popular in certain areas of the state, which often creates commercial competition inside residential neighborhoods. Lodging facilitator legislation passed in 2021 helps to level the playing field between short-term rental providers and more traditional hoteliers and bed and breakfast owners. Current state law requires short term rental operators to remit the appropriate state and local taxes on their transactions. Aside from taxation, municipal governments have a vested interest in balancing the community impact of short-term rentals. Parking, noise, and party houses can be recurring issues with short-term rental properties in unregulated environments. Operating lodging businesses in residential settings defeats the purpose behind residential designations, unless properly governed with clear guidelines from the local government.

8. AMENDMENT OF CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST PROVISION FOR REDEVELOPMENT POWERS LAW:

The Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting the local legislative delegation introduce/support legislation to revise and to clarify the conflict-of-interest provisions in the Redevelopment Powers Law which address the participation of local government elective and appointive officials and employees in the creation and administration of Tax Allocation Districts. (*Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker, Glenn Davis and Charmaine Crabb/Carry Over From Previous Years*)

Explanation:

1) With respect to property acquired after the designation of a redevelopment area or TAD, the current law very broadly prohibits any "elected official, appointed official, **or employee** of any political subdivision, board, commission, or redevelopment agency from voluntarily acquiring any interest, direct or indirect, in any property contract or transaction or proposed contract or transaction in connection with the redevelopment of that redevelopment area..." The proposed revision would remove the blanket prohibition against voluntary property acquisition in a redevelopment area and instead provide that any official or employee who has a direct ownership interest in a property that is proposed to receive payment of redevelopment costs shall disclose the interest in writing to the legislative body and shall not vote or in any way participate in considering the matter or seek to influence the votes of others on the matter.

2) The current law requires that any elected or appointed official or employee of a political subdivision who has acquired any interest direct or indirect in property in the redevelopment area within the two years immediately prior to the date the plan is submitted to the local legislative body shall disclose the interest in writing 30 days in advance and "not participate in any action of the political subdivision which affects that property." The revision would cut the time of written notice to 5 days and limit the coverage of the provision to public officers as defined by O.C.G.A. Section 21-5-3 (22) instead of the current general reference to all elected officials, appointed officials and employees.

3) The proposed revision also refines the definition of the property interest covered by the conflict provision. The current law covers any transaction which facilitates the acquisition "any interest direct or indirect" in property and substitutes a direct ownership interest in property as defined by O.C.G.A. Section 21-5-3(8).

9. FUNDING FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:

The Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting that the legislative delegation advocate for support of a robust system of care for behavioral health, addictive diseases and developmental disabilities, and additional funding for crisis intervention teams throughout the state. (*Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Years*)

Explanation:

The Columbus Consolidated Government recognizes the need for a robust system of care that supports recovery and independence for people living with mental illness, addictive disorders and developmental disabilities. Locally provided state services to individuals living with disabilities are critical to providing an appropriate safety net and an alternative to incarceration. There should be an adequate number of crisis intervention teams around the state to help public safety officials manage critical situations as needed. These services also help people meaningfully contribute to and participate in the life of our communities.

**10. NEW OPTIONS WAIVER PROGRAM AND COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORTS
WAIVER PROGRAM:**

The Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting the legislative delegation to the General Assembly evaluate and appropriately fund operation of the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP), which offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD). *(Request of Councilor Toyia Tucker/Carry Over From Previous Year)*

Explanation:

See fact sheet attached.



New Options Waiver Program (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP)

The New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD). The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) administers Medicaid, which delegates the day-to-day operation of the NOW/COMP Programs to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Division of Developmental Disabilities.

The DBHDD Central Office performs statewide waiver operational and daily administrative functions. The six DBHDD regional offices perform NOW/COMP waiver functions at the regional level, including intake and evaluation, preauthorization of NOW/COMP waiver services, utilization management, crisis resolution, quality management, and intervention in cases of service delivery problems or concerns. Individuals access the NOW/COMP Program through the DBHDD regional offices or through this link. The NOW/COMP waiver serves individuals with intellectual disabilities or other closely related conditions, such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or neurological problems. These disabilities require a level of care provided in an intermediate-care facility (ICF) for people diagnosed with I/DD. There are more than 12,000 people with developmental disabilities who are served by the NOW/COMP programs in Georgia.

Eligibility for Both Programs

Individuals who meet the level of care that would be required in an intermediate-care facility for people with intellectual disabilities (ICF-ID) may be eligible for home- and community-based services as an alternative through Georgia's Medicaid NOW and COMP waiver programs.

To qualify for these waiver programs and be offered the choice of community-based services instead of institutional care, the individual must first meet the criteria for Medicaid payment in an institution and certain other criteria.

Specific qualifications:

- Categorically eligible Medicaid recipients
- Have a diagnosis of an intellectual disability and/or a closely related condition
- Currently receiving the level of care provided in an ICF-ID that is reimbursable under the State Plan, and for whom home- and community-based services are determined to be an appropriate alternative
- Likely to require the level of care provided in an ICF-ID that would be reimbursable under the State Plan in the absence of home- and community-based services that are determined to be an appropriate alternative

Purpose of the NOW Program

The NOW waiver program offers services and supports to individuals to enable them to remain living in their own or family home and participate or live independently in the community.

Goals for participants in the NOW program, which serves individuals with less intensive needs than those in the COMP program, include:

- Avoiding the need for more intensive services. Increasing independence and quality of life of individuals with I/DD.
- Increasing the flexibility of service planning and delivery to meet exact individual needs.
- Providing the opportunity for all participants to elect to direct their services to the extent that they choose.
- Ensuring the health, safety and welfare of NOW participants.

Purpose of the COMP Program

The COMP waiver program, which serves individuals with more intensive needs, primarily provides residential care for individuals with I/DD. These individuals require comprehensive and intensive services and need out-of-home residential support and supervision or intensive levels of in-home services to remain in the community.

The purpose of the COMP program is to offer comprehensive and extensive waiver services to enable individuals with urgent and intense needs to avoid institutional placement. The COMP program provides the level of services needed by individuals transitioning from institutions to community living.

Goals for participants in the COMP program include:

- Avoiding the need for institutional placement
- Increasing independence and quality of life of individuals with ID/DD who have intensive or comprehensive support needs
- Facilitating the transition of institutionalized individuals to community living.
- Offering opportunities statewide for participant direction by waiver participants who have intensive or comprehensive support needs
- Ensuring the health, safety and welfare of COMP program participants

For More Information

Visit the DCH website at:

www.dch.georgia.gov

or visit the DBHDD website at:

www.dbhdd.georgia.gov

NOW/COMP Waiver Program Services

Adult Dental Services
Adult Nursing Service
Adult Occupational Therapy Services
Adult Physical Therapy Services
Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services
Additional Staffing Services
Assistive Technology
Behavioral Supports Services
Community Access Services
Community Guide Services
Community Living Support Services
Community Residential Alternative Services (COMP only)
Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services

Financial Support Services
Individual Directed Goods and Services
Interpreter Services
Natural Support Training Services
Nutrition Services
Pre-vocational Services
Respite Services
Respite Out-of-Home 15-minute Services
Specialized Medical Equipment Services
Specialized Medical Supplies Services
Support Coordination Services
Intensive Support Coordination Services
Supported Employment Services
Transportation Services
Vehicle Adaption Services

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRN’s) are currently issued an “authorization to practice” under an RN’s license; and,

WHEREAS, independent licensing could allow APRN’s to provide services which they currently cannot provide such as being an approved signature to order disability parking permits, writing prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances subject to certain conditions, and the ability to certify orders for a home health agency to make home visits; and,

WHEREAS, in the 2023 Session, S.B. 164 was approved to permit separate licensing for APRN’s but it was vetoed at the request of the Sponsors due to some administrative details that still needed to be worked out; and,

WHEREAS, APRN’s have advanced education and trusting relationships with their collaborating physicians to provide safe, effective healthcare services; and,

WHEREAS, the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus Chapter join in requesting Council action to allow APRN’s to provide more services through this revision of licensing requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

This Council respectfully requests that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support an amended revised version of SB 164 which passed last year to remove barriers to APRN practice and thereby increase access to cost effective, quality, and safe healthcare services.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at the regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____ 2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN’s) are able to complete the physical examination for the DMV application for a handicap placard but are not allowed to sign it; and,

WHEREAS, this restriction can result in a delay of care waiting for the physician signature; and,

WHEREAS, Georgia is one of two states in USA where this total restriction remains; and,

WHEREAS, the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus chapter join in requesting Council action to allow APRN’s to provide this service.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

This Council respectfully requests that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support legislation which would add APRN’s to the list of the Department of Motor Vehicle’s approved practitioners to sign disability parking permits.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at the regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____ 2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN’s) are able to write prescriptions for schedule III, IV and V medications which treat conditions such as depression, anxiety, and opioid abuse but are not allowed to write for Stimulants (Ritalin, Adderall) for ADD/ADHD for adult patients; and,

WHEREAS, APRN’s assess and evaluate the behaviors/symptoms for these stimulant medications and send it to the physician to send to the pharmacy which often results in a delay in the patient receiving the medication; and,

WHEREAS, Georgia is one of two states in USA where this restriction remains; and,

WHEREAS, the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus chapter join in requesting Council action to allow APRN’s to provide this service.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

This Council respectfully requests that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce or support legislation which would allow APRN’s to write prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances which are Stimulants under certain conditions.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at the regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____ 2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN’s) can assess, diagnose, and treat for most conditions requiring home health but are not able to order the services for home health that would allow for nursing services, physical or occupational therapy, to go into the home and prevent an exacerbation of symptoms; and,

WHEREAS, the order has to wait for the physician to sign it which may cause a delay of care, especially after an inpatient hospital stay; and,

WHEREAS, Georgia is one of eleven states in United States where this restriction remains; and,

WHEREAS, the United Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (UAPRN) of West Georgia Columbus chapter join in requesting Council action to allow APRN’s to provide this service.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

This Council respectfully requests that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce or support legislation which would allow APRN’s to write orders for home health care services.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at the regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, Adult Abuse Neglect & Exploitation Multidisciplinary Team Establishment Law (O.C.G.A. § 30-5-11) was adopted in 2018 to allow the establishment of multidisciplinary teams for coordination of local resources and responses for adult abuse and exploitation; and,

WHEREAS, in circuits where the teams have been established, they have been a very effective tool; and,

WHEREAS, updating the Adult Abuse Neglect & Exploitation Multidisciplinary Team Establishment Law to require all judicial districts to create multidisciplinary teams for coordination of local resources and response for adult abuse, exploitation and neglect would allow a uniform response to the needs of vulnerable adults throughout the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

This Council respectfully requests that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce or support legislation which would requiring that the multidisciplinary teams for dealing with adult abuse, neglect and exploitation described in O.C.G.A.§ 30-5-11 be mandatory in each judicial circuit of the State.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at the regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____.
- Councilor Chambers voting _____.
- Councilor Cogle voting _____.
- Councilor Crabb voting _____.
- Councilor Davis voting _____.
- Councilor Garrett voting _____.
- Councilor Hickey voting _____.
- Councilor Huff voting _____.
- Councilor Thomas voting _____.
- Councilor Tucker voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, The Non-Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Program (HCBS) provides services that promote health and independence; and,

WHEREAS, HCBS in home services which include home delivered meals, adult day care, respite care, home modification can help delay premature nursing home care by 51 months; and,

WHEREAS, the longer a person is able to stay at home with support, the happier and healthier he or she is and the more taxpayer dollars are saved.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

This Council respectfully requests that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly advocate for a \$10 Million increase in funding for Home and Community Based Services (HBCS) order to provide services in the home that help older Georgians stay in their homes and communities for longer and avoid the expense of nursing home care.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at the regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the ____ day of _____2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

A Resolution supporting legislation which maintains local municipal control of units used as short-term rentals.

WHEREAS, current Georgia Municipal Association policy provides as follows: Short-term or vacation rentals are popular in certain areas of the state, which often creates commercial competition inside residential neighborhoods. Lodging facilitator legislation passed in 2021 helps to level the playing field between short-term rental providers and more traditional hoteliers and bed and breakfast owners. Current state law requires short term rental operators to remit the appropriate state and local taxes on their transactions. Aside from taxation, municipal governments have a vested interested in balancing the community impact of short-term rentals. Parking, noise and party houses can be recurring issues with short-term rental properties in unregulated environments. Operating lodging businesses in residential settings defeats the purpose behind residential designations, unless properly governed with clear guidelines from the local government; and,

WHEREAS, this Council supports the GMA policy position on short-term rentals and local control of units used for short-term rentals in Columbus and urges the local delegation to the General Assembly to maintain local control of such units.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

The Columbus Council supports the GMA policy position on short-term rentals and supports local control of the regulation of short-term rentals as necessary for quality of life, public safety and a competitive lodging marketplace. This Council urges the local delegation to the General Assembly to maintain local control of units used as short-term rentals, subject to all applicable state laws and ordinances.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ___ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

WHEREAS, the conflict of interest provision of Redevelopment Powers Law, Title 36, Chapter 44 is broadly and unclearly worded in a way that leaves all CCG officials, even employees whose positions have nothing to do with the creation or administration of a Tax Allocation District, subject to possible disclosure requirements and prohibitions from voluntarily acquiring a direct or indirect interest in property in any TAD created by Council; and,

WHEREAS, this Council desires that the conflict of interest provision applicable to TAD’s be more specific and limited as to the persons covered by its requirements and use definitions consistent with the Ethics in Government Act found in Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Georgia Code.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY
RESOLVES:**

We hereby request that the local delegation to the General Assembly introduce/support the attached proposed amendment to O.C.G.A.§ 36-44-21 or any similar proposal, which clarifies that code section by providing standard definitions and eliminates the prohibition against the acquisition of property in TAD’s by all CCG employees. Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____.
- Councilor Chambers voting _____.
- Councilor Cogle voting _____.
- Councilor Crabb voting _____.
- Councilor Davis voting _____.
- Councilor Garrett voting _____.
- Councilor Hickey voting _____.
- Councilor Huff voting _____.
- Councilor Thomas voting _____.
- Councilor Tucker voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SUPPORT OF FUNDING FOR
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES.**

WHEREAS, this Council recognizes the need for a robust system of care that supports recovery and independence for people living with mental illness, addictive disorders and developmental disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, locally provided state services to individuals living with disabilities are critical to providing an appropriate safety net and an alternative to incarceration; and,

WHEREAS, there should be an adequate number of crisis intervention teams around the state to help public safety officials manage critical situations as needed; and,

WHEREAS, these services also help people meaningfully contribute to and participate in the life of our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY
RESOLVES:**

This Council requests that members of the local delegation to the General Assembly join in advocating for support for a robust system of care for behavioral health, addictive diseases and developmental disabilities, and additional funding for crisis intervention teams throughout the state.

Let a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of Council to each member of the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the ____ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmation vote of ____ members of Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III Mayor

**A RESOLUTION
NO.**

A Resolution requesting that the local legislative delegation evaluate and appropriately fund operation of the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP), which offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD); and,

WHEREAS, the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD); and,

WHEREAS, goals for participants in the NOW program, which serves individuals with less intensive needs than those in the COMP program, include: Avoiding the need for more intensive services. Increasing independence and quality of life of individuals with I/DD; increasing the flexibility of service planning and delivery to meet exact individual needs; providing the opportunity for all participants to elect to direct their services to the extent that they choose; and ensuring the health, safety and welfare of NOW participants; and,

WHEREAS, goals for participants in the COMP program include: avoiding the need for institutional placement; increasing independence and quality of life of individuals with ID/DD who have intensive or comprehensive support needs; facilitating the transition of institutionalized individuals to community living; offering opportunities statewide for participant direction by waiver participants who have intensive or comprehensive support needs; and ensuring the health, safety and welfare of COMP program participants; and,

WHEREAS, there are more than 12,000 people with developmental disabilities who are served by the NOW/COMP programs in Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, this Council desires that the local legislative delegation evaluate and appropriately fund operation of the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP), which offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD).

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

We hereby request that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly evaluate and appropriately fund operation of the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP), which offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD), through the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Division of Developmental Disabilities. Let a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to each member of the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ___ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Chambers voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III Mayor