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## **Former DNC Chair and U.S. Labor Secretary Tom Perez Endorses Kenyan McDuffie for Mayor**

### **Perez Backs McDuffie's Civil Rights Record, Values and Ability to Defend DC's Rights and Home Rule**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, the McDuffie for Mayor campaign released the endorsement and accompanying video of Tom Perez, former Chair of the Democratic National Committee, U.S. Secretary of Labor under President Obama, and Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice, backing Kenyan McDuffie for Mayor of Washington, DC.

Perez highlighted McDuffie's service in the Obama Justice Department, where McDuffie worked in the Civil Rights Division to protect vulnerable communities and hold powerful institutions accountable.

"When I led the Civil Rights Division, we hired Kenyan because he was a hard-working person whose values aligned with President Obama's values," Perez said. "He worked to root out police misconduct and abuses in hospitals, nursing homes, and other places where vulnerable people were living. He brought that same fight to the DC Council, serving with distinction."

Perez said McDuffie is the leader DC needs in this moment.

"Now more than ever, DC needs a mayor who can defend people's rights, protect home rule, and stand up to the Trump administration," Perez said. "On June 16th, rank Kenyan number one to become Washington's next mayor so that he can bring the fight and deliver for all of DC."

"Tom Perez has spent his career fighting for workers, protecting civil rights, and strengthening our democracy," stated McDuffie. "I'm honored to have his support in this campaign. Tom knows my record, my values, and the work I have done to stand up for people who too often get ignored. As mayor, I'll bring that same fight to build a safer, more affordable, and more accountable DC for all."

Perez's endorsement adds to a growing coalition of leaders and organizations supporting McDuffie. To date, McDuffie has been endorsed by former and current electeds, including former Mayor Sharon Pratt, former Mayor Tony Williams, former Councilmember Mary Cheh, former Councilmember Charlene Drew Jarvis, former Council Chair Linda Cropp, Councilmember Wendell Felder, Councilmember Anita Bonds, Senator Angela Alsobrooks. His organizational endorsements include the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington, DC Association of Realtors, Chevy Chase Forward, DMV New Liberals, Small Multifamily

Owners Association, Washington Parking Association and the Associated Builders and Contractors of Metro Washington.

Kenyan McDuffie is a fourth-generation Washingtonian and Democratic candidate for DC Mayor. Kenyan put himself through college by carrying mail for the U.S. Postal Service before earning degrees from Howard University and the University of Maryland School of Law. He worked for Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, became a local prosecutor, and went on to serve as a civil rights attorney at the DOJ under President Obama. Kenyan served on the DC Council for more than 13 years, authoring transformational policies to expand affordable housing, strengthen public safety, and build long-term wealth for Black and brown residents, including creating one of the nation's first Baby Bonds programs.

The Democratic primary election will take place on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. For more information, please visit [kenyanmcduffie.com](http://kenyanmcduffie.com).

Paid for by McDuffie for Mayor, 80 M St., SE, Washington, DC 20003, Faith Gibson Hubbard, Treasurer.