

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

Natwar M. Gandhi  
Chief Financial Officer



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Linda W. Cropp  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Natwar M. Gandhi  
Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** October 8, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement: "Surname Freedom Amendment Act of 2002"

**REFERENCE:** Bill Number 14-716

---

**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2003 through FY 2006 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation because no additional staff or resources will be required. The proposed legislation will have no affect on General Fund revenue.

**Background**

The proposed legislation would repeal current law that prescribes a specific surname and would provide that the surname of the child is the surname of the mother at the time of birth or a surname selected by both parents if the father's name was entered on the birth certificate. If the father's name was not entered on the birth certificate, the child's surname is the mother's surname or another surname selected at the sole discretion of the mother. The bill also would replace reference to the Department of the Health with the Department of Human Services.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2003 through FY 2006 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. No additional staff or resources will be required because the cost of any required changes can be absorbed with existing resources.