

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: September 23, 2003

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: “Catering Amendment Act of 2003”

REFERENCE: Draft – No Bill Number

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2003 budget and the proposed FY 2004 through FY 2007 budget and financial plan to implement the “Catering Amendment Act of 2003.”

Background

The “Catering Amendment Act of 2003” provides a series of exemptions and clarifications regarding caterers’ licenses and applications and seeks to clarify the procedures that must be followed by the Alcohol Beverage Control (“ABC”) Board and an applicant for new and renewal catering license applications. The proposed legislation also requires the ABC Board to establish separate procedures for applying the appropriateness standards contained in the DC Official Code to applicants for a caterer’s license. In addition, the proposed legislation permits the holder of a caterer’s license to hold an event within 400 feet of a public or private school or on a recreation area operated by the D.C. Department of Recreation.

Financial Plan Impact

The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) has indicated that it can handle the additional responsibilities associated with the caterer’s license within its existing budget. ABRA has FY 2004 budget authority, subject to verification of existing funds by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, to hire six additional fulltime employees. According to ABRA, some of these positions will be used to assist in the licensing of ABC caterers. The proposed legislation, therefore, has no fiscal impact.