

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 [signature]
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: November 1, 2004

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Emergency Medical Services Health
Care Peer Review Amendment Act of 2004"

REFERENCE: Draft Legislation to be Introduced - No Bill Number Available

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2005 through FY 2008 budget and financial plan. No additional staff or resources will be required.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend existing law to include the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (Fire and EMS) in the definition of Health Care Provider for the purposes of submission of findings and evaluations in ongoing peer review operations. The current law shields reports, recommendations and records generated by the health care peer review process from being used for litigious purposes. Peer reviews are proprietary and not subject to discovery or admissible as evidence in a civil or criminal proceeding.

Confidentiality is required in a health care peer review in order to garner frank disclosure from the persons involved. The proposed legislation would provide assurances to Fire/EMS employees that their discussions of medical treatment personnel and procedures will not be used against them later in the event of litigation.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2005 through FY 2008 budget and financial plan because no additional staff or resources will be required.