

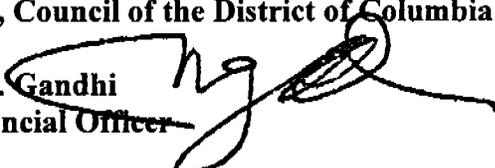
**Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**



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: AUG 24 2006

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations
Records Access Amendment Act of 2006"

REFERENCE: Draft Bill – No Number Assigned

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2007 through FY 2010 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation because no additional staff or resources would be required.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend Title I of "The Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977" (D.C. Official Code § 4-1301.02 *et seq.*) to provide the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) access to certain records held by those persons mandated by law to report suspected child abuse and neglect. The proposed legislation is intended to protect the safety of children who are subject to abuse and neglect and to strengthen the accuracy of decision-making by the CFSA by making available immediately to CFSA, upon request of CFSA investigators, records of other agencies concerning reports of abuse and neglect. The legislation also stipulates that CFSA shall not be charged a fee for access to the relevant records.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2007 through FY 2010 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The affected agencies will absorb any additional and unforeseen costs from existing appropriated budget resources.