

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



2007 MAY 31 PM 3:05

Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

CHAIRMAN GRAY

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi 
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: MAY 31 2007

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Child Abuse and Neglect Investigation Record Access Amendment Act of 2007"

REFERENCE: Draft Bill – No Number Assigned

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2007 and proposed FY 2008 through FY 2011 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. 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.¹ 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.

¹ The emergency and temporary version of this bill was approved by the Council and the Mayor in 2006.

The Honorable Vincent C. Gray

FIS: "Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations Records Access Amendment Act of 2007"

Page 2 of 2

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.