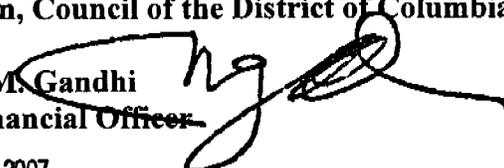


GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi 
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: AUG 9 2007

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Health Care Peer Review
Amendment Act of 2007"

REFERENCE: Draft Legislation to be Introduced—No Bill Number

Conclusion

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

Background

The proposed legislation is intended to help health licensing boards protect District of Columbia residents from unsafe practitioners by ensuring that constituents of the peer review body of a health care facility, agency, group practice, or health professional association remain anonymous.

Specifically, the proposed legislation would amend the Medical Records Act of 1978¹ by mandating that peer review materials be forwarded to the respective health licensing board within ten (10) days of final action on a health professional charged with incompetence or improper professional conduct. Under the proposed legislation, these materials would be admissible in administrative hearings on the charged health professional.

¹ D.C. Law 2-112; D.C. Official Code § 44-805(a). Effective September 29, 1978.

The proposed legislation would also prohibit the disclosure of the identity of any person who provides information or opinions to the peer review body, or any person who is present during the peer review meeting.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2008 through FY 2011 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Unexpected costs associated with implementing the legislation can be absorbed with existing agency resources.

The fiscal impact of the proposed legislation is expected to be minimal, as the burden of collecting and submitting peer review materials falls on the peer review body, and not on the District government.