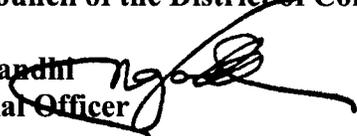


**Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

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

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi 
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: October 6, 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Protection of Students with
Disabilities Amendment Act of 2008"

REFERENCE: B17-654 – As Introduced

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

Background

The proposed legislation amends D.C. Code § 38-2561 to ban the placement of any student funded by the District of Columbia in a special education program that supports the use of aversive intervention techniques through policy or practice or in a special education program or school that does not hold a Certificate of Approval from the Office of State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). The proposed legislation also requires OSSE to develop and administer a Certification of Approval program (basic requirements of which are outlined in the legislation) for non-public special education schools or programs that serve students with disabilities who are funded by the District of Columbia. Finally, the proposed legislation outlines the hearing process associated with removal of Certification.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. OSSE had already planned to improve the monitoring of non-public and residential programs and schools where District-funded students are placed, including on-site visits of these facilities as required by the proposed legislation. To this end, the agency already allocated \$337,394 for FY

2009 to support four program monitors and one certification monitor. Any additional costs associated with the development and administration of the Certificate of Approval program above and beyond what OSSE has already planned for will be absorbed by the Special Education program under the Office of the State Superintendent of Education.