

**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: NOV -6 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "School Safety and Security
Contracting Amendment Act of 2008"

REFERENCE: Bill 17-742, Committee Print dated October 14, 2008

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 would amend the School Safety and Security Contracting Amendment Act of 2008 (D.C. Official Code § 5-132.01 *et seq.*) to require the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) School Safety Division to make annual recommendations to the Mayor, the Council, and the Chancellor, on the safety and well-being of children affected by school closings. Specifically, the recommendations would focus on the safety issues that might arise from students taking new routes and from gang and crew violence that may affect students both at school and *en route* to school. The proposed legislation also would require the School Safety Division's training curriculum to include training on gang and crew violence prevention. Similarly, the District of Columbia Department of Transportation would be required to provide recommendations on the deployment of school crossing guards, taking into account the impact of school closings and reconfigurations, projected enrollment, traffic conditions, and all other relevant factors, by July 31st of each year starting in 2009. Finally, the proposed legislation would require the incorporation of these recommendations into the School Safety Division's comprehensive plan for school safety before the beginning of each school year.

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. There is no fiscal impact associated with the requirement for the MPD and the Mayor to develop and incorporate recommendations on school safety, particularly in the context of school closings.

However, the recommendations, once formulated and adopted, may involve programmatic and staffing changes that have costs to implement. Should that be the case, in accordance with the District's anti-deficiency laws, the MPD must ensure the availability of funds before implementing these programs.