

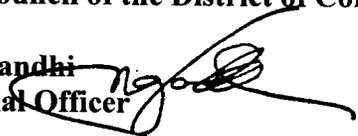
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi
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: January 30, 2009

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Practice of Psychology Amendment Act of 2009"

REFERENCE: Bill 18-35, As Introduced

Conclusion

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

Revenues generated from new registration fees would be used to offset the cost of additional resources required to implement the proposed legislation. In order for the expected additional revenues to be available for expenditure, appropriation authority will be required.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend the Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985¹ to:

- Amend the definition of "practice of psychology;"
- Amend the requirements to obtain a license to practice psychology in the District;
- Require psychology associates to register with the Mayor;
- Provide that a registered psychology associate may provide psychological services and activities while under the direct supervision of a psychiatrist, or a psychologist who possesses a doctoral degree in psychology;

¹ Effective March 25, 1986. D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 *et seq.*

- Require the Mayor to issue rules setting forth the education and experience needed to qualify as a psychology associate; and
- Require the Board of Psychology to regulate the practice of psychology associates.

Financial Plan Impact

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

Subject to the applicable laws relating to the appropriation of District of Columbia funds, new registration fees deposited into the Health Occupations Regulation Fund would be used by the Department of Health (DOH) without fiscal year limitation as set forth in D.C. Official Code § 7-733. As provided in D.C. Official Code § 3-1204.09, the Mayor has the authority to establish fees for all services related to the regulation of all health occupations listed in Chapter 12 of Title 3 of the D.C. Official Code. Given this authority, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer concurs with DOH that revenues generated from new registration fees would be sufficient to offset the cost of additional resources required to implement the proposed legislation. In order for the expected additional revenues to be available for expenditure, appropriation authority will be required.