

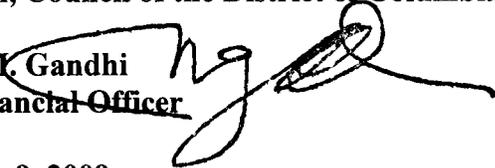
**Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**



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: December 9, 2009

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Foster Care Youth Identity Protection
Amendment Act of 2009"

REFERENCE: Bill 18-449

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2010 through FY 2013 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend The Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977¹ to require that the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) request one credit disclosure report for each minor at some point between when the minor turns 16 and the minor exits the system.² It would also absolve CFSA of any responsibility for providing assistance beyond referring the minor to an approved organization that provides credit counseling services to victims of identity theft.

Under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, a person is entitled to one free credit report per year. This credit report can be obtained through a central website³, a toll-free telephone number, or through the mail.⁴

¹ Effective September 23, 1977 (D.C. Law 2-22; D.C. Official Code § 4-1301.01 *et seq.*).

² According to the Committee on Human Services, this is the intent of the bill. The language in the current draft of the legislation does not clearly reflect this intent.

³ See <https://www.annualcreditreport.com>.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2010 through FY 2013 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Given the minimal time and effort required to request a credit report and the fact that the credit report itself is free, no additional resources would be needed to implement the proposed legislation. There is no fiscal impact.

⁴ There are three nationwide consumer reporting companies and all can accessed through these centralized means.