

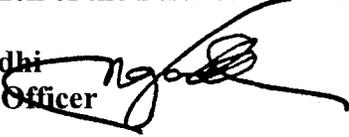
**Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**



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: February 12, 2010

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “Council Cable Autonomy and Control Amendment Act of 2009”

REFERENCE: Bill Number 18-494 – As Introduced

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2010 through FY 2013 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation clarifies the Council’s authority to control the programming of the public access channels allocated to the Council, without impacting the current financial structure and management of the channels, and therefore does not have an impact on the District’s budget and financial plan.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend the Cable Television Reform Act of 2002¹ to require that the Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) channels allocated to the Council would be under the exclusive control of the Council², provided that the Office of Cable Television (“Office”) would continue to manage the channels, and any video recordings or other documents, media, or intangible rights created in connection with the operation of the channels would be held by the Office as a custodian on behalf of the Council. The Secretary of the Council would be authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office to implement the proposed legislation.

¹ Effective October 9, 2002 (D.C. Law 14-193; D.C. Official Code § 34-1258.03) by adding a new subsection § 34-1258.03(b-1) (Allocation of PEG channels)

² The control of the Council would include the right to direct which proceedings of the Council, including any events conducted by or on behalf of the Council, its committees, members, or staff, whether on the PEG channels allocated to the Council or any auxiliary website from which the proceedings may be downloaded, streamed, or viewed, may be recorded, broadcast, or re-broadcast. The Secretary of the Council would determine the programming of the Council’s PEG channels.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2010 through FY 2013 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation would clarify the Council's authority to control the programming of the PEG channels allocated to the Council. The management of the channels, including financial management, would remain with the Office of Cable Television in its current structure and without any impact on the Office's budget. Hence, the proposed legislation does not have an impact on the District's budget and financial plan.