

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



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Philip H. Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: July 5, 2012

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “District of Columbia Retail Food Code Approval Resolution of 2012”

REFERENCE: Draft resolution, shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on May 15, 2012

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2013 through FY 2016 budget and financial plan to implement the resolution.

Background

The resolution would approve the Department of Health’s (DOH) proposed rules to repeal subsections 513.7, 513.8, 513.9, and 513.10 of Title 24 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR)¹; and to replace Subtitle A (*Food and Food Operations*) of Title 25 (*Food Operations and Community Hygiene Facilities*) of the DCMR in its entirety. The proposed rules will incorporate (1) updated definitions; (2) a new employee health section based on new scientific information regarding the agents that are most likely to be transmitted from an infected food worker through food; (3) new procedures for reduced oxygen packaging of cheeses; (4) new procedures for date marking on high-risk foods; (5) new temperature requirements for food storage; (6) new variance and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) provisions that provide specific times and temperatures for processing various products; and other technical amendments. In general, the rules are being updated to incorporate recommendations from the United States Food and Drug Administration’s 2001, 2005, and 2009 Model Food Codes and their supplements, the most recent of which was issued in 2011.

¹ These subsections contain health regulations for vendors of certain types of foods. They are extraneous because their content is covered more comprehensively within the retail food code.

The Honorable Philip H. Mendelson

FIS: "District of Columbia Retail Food Code Approval Resolution of 2012," draft resolution, shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on May 15, 2012

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2013 through FY 2016 budget and financial plan to implement the resolution. The revised code does not change any fees for registrations or certifications, so it will not have an impact on District revenues. Implementation, such as code monitoring, certification processing, and inspections will continue to proceed with existing resources at DOH.