


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



Jeffrey S. DeWitt
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Jeffrey S. DeWitt
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: October 12, 2017

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Digital Literacy Council Establishment Act of 2017

REFERENCE: Bill 22-160, Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 26, 2017

Conclusion

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2018 through 2021 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill is estimated to cost \$97,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$406,000 over the four-year financial plan.

Background

The bill establishes a Digital Literacy Council (DLC) to assist and advise the Mayor and Council in promoting and improving the digital literacy¹ of District residents. The DLC will be composed of 19 uncompensated members including:

- One member, who will serve as the Chairperson, appointed by the chairperson of the Council committee with oversight of the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO);
- One member appointed by OCTO;
- One member appointed by the University of the District of Columbia;
- One member appointed by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE);
- One member appointed by the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS);
- One member appointed by the Deputy Mayor for Greater Economic Opportunity;
- One member appointed by the Department of Small and Local Business Development;
- One member appointed by the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development;
- One member appointed by the Workforce Investment Council;
- One member appointed by the Office on Aging;

¹ Fluency in the use and security of interactive digital tools and searchable networks. This includes the ability to use digital tools safely and effectively for learning, collaborating, and producing.

- One representative from the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area;
- An expert in cyber security as chosen by the Mayor;
- An expert in technology and telecommunications law and regulation as chosen by the Mayor; and
- Six non-governmental representatives appointed by the Chairperson of the DLC.

The DLC must develop a digital literacy policy and annual report to the Mayor and Council that addresses:

- Strategies and actions for incorporating digital literacy into workforce training;
- Strategies and actions for incorporating digital literacy into grades pre-k through 12 and higher education;
- Strategies and actions for addressing the digital literacy and broadband adoption needs of senior residents in the District of Columbia;
- Increasing access to digital technologies for all District residents;
- An evaluation of District-wide digital literacy; and
- Recommended standards to ensure DCPS and District of Columbia Public Charter School students are digitally literate.

Within one year of the effective date of the bill, the Mayor must submit to Council a digital literacy education development strategic plan, developed by the DLC in consultation with OCTO and OSSE, that addresses:

- How to effectively use emerging learning technologies for school and lifelong learning;
- Appropriate use of computers and mobile devices in an educational setting;
- Instructing students on how to be critical consumers of information; and
- How to best prepare students for the demands of the global technological economy.

Within one year of the effective date of the bill, the Mayor must submit to Council a digital literacy education curriculum that will complement adult literacy programs for District government workforce training programs. The Mayor must also submit a digital literacy strategic plan, to improve the digital literacy of senior residents, developed by the DLC in consultation with the Office on Aging and OSSE.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2018 through 2021 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill is estimated to cost \$97,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$406,000 over the four-year financial plan.

The Mayor will need to hire one full-time employee at OCTO to complete the digital literacy education development strategic plan and the digital literacy education curriculum. This employee will also assist the DLC in preparing its annual report. The employee's salary and benefits are estimated to cost \$97,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$406,000 over the four-year financial plan period. OCTO does not have sufficient staff to absorb these duties.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 22-160, "Digital Literacy Council Establishment Act of 2017," Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 26, 2017

Bill 22-160 - Digital Literacy Council Establishment Act of 2017					
Total Fiscal Impact					
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	Total
Salary	\$79,077	\$81,449	\$83,893	\$86,410	\$330,829
Fringe	\$18,030	\$18,570	\$19,128	\$19,701	\$75,429
Total ^{(a)(b)}	\$97,107	\$100,020	\$103,020	\$106,111	\$406,258

Table Notes:

(a) Assumes one Grade-12, Step 5 FTE and a fringe benefit rate of 22.8 percent.

(b) Costs increase by 3 percent to account for salary step increases.