# 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: November 1, 2018

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact State – Vulnerable Population and Employer Protection

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**Amendment Act of 2018** 

REFERENCE: Bill 22-480, Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue

Analysis on October 19, 2018

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2019 through 2022 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

## **Background**

The bill authorizes¹ Health Occupation Licensing Boards to take disciplinary action on a health professional who engages in the financial exploitation of a patient, client or employer. Financial exploitation includes the non-accidental act or omission by a health professional that causes monetary or property loss to a patient, client, or employer, or monetary or property gain to the health professional. Financial exploitation may result from consent obtained as a result of misrepresentation, undue influence, coercion or threat of force by the health professional.

The bill allows<sup>2</sup>,<sup>3</sup> individuals licensed to practice as a trauma technologist to provide topical and infiltration application of a local anesthetic. Currently, trauma technologists can only apply topical anesthetic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> By amending the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 *et seq.*).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> By amending Section 651(b)(4) of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 et seq.),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> By amending Section 10613.2(d) of Title 17 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Vulnerable Population and Employer Protection Amendment Act of 2018," Bill 22-480, Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on October 19, 2018

The bill allows<sup>4</sup> individuals to own African Pygmy hedgehogs in the District. These animals are currently not included on the list of permitted animals that can be kept as pets.

# **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2019 through 2022 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The Health Care Regulation and Licensing Administration in the Department of Health has adequate resources to provide administrative support in the event that a health licensing board takes disciplinary action against a professional. Additionally, the Animal Services Program at DOH can implement the bill without additional resources.

<sup>4</sup> By amending Section 9(j)(1)(C) of the Animal Control Act of 1979, effective October 18, 1979 (D.C. Law 3-30; D.C. Official Code § 8-1808(l)).