


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:** January 16, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Medical Assistance Program Modernization  
Amendment Act of 2018

**REFERENCE:** Bill 22-481 - Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue  
Analysis on January 12, 2018.

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2018 through fiscal year 2021 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill eliminates<sup>1</sup> the requirement that the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) submit every proposed Medicaid state plan, modification, or waiver to the Council of the District of Columbia for a 30-day passive review period. Under current law, Council is required to approve each proposal before DHCF can send it to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Once at CMS, the proposal must undergo an additional 90-day review period. DHCF currently builds in additional time by submitting proposal review requests earlier and by setting an effective date to cover the additional review requirements. By eliminating the Council review requirement, the approval timeline will be shortened and program changes can go into effect in a shorter timeframe.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2018 through fiscal year 2021 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill streamlines the approval process for the proposed changes to the Medicaid state plan and waivers. DHCF can implement the bill within its current budget.

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<sup>1</sup> By amending section 1(a) of an Act To enable the District of Columbia to receive Federal financial assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act for a medical assistance program, and for other purposes, approved December 27, 1967 (81 Stat. 744; D.C. Official Code § 1-307.02(a)).