


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 22, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Strengthening Reproductive Health  
Protections Amendment Act of 2020

**REFERENCE:** Bill 23-434 Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue  
Analysis on January 8, 2020

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**Conclusion**

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2020 through fiscal year 2023 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill will cost \$141,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$817,000 over the four-year financial plan to implement.

**Background**

The bill recognizes<sup>1</sup> the right to choose or refuse contraception or sterilization and to decide whether to carry a pregnancy to term or to have an abortion as a human right in the District of Columbia. The bill prohibits the District government from denying access to, interfering with, or restricting reproductive health decisions. The bill prohibits the District government from punishing or penalizing individuals based upon their reproductive health decisions. The bill also prohibits discrimination by health care providers against health care professionals that are willing to participate in abortion or sterilization procedures.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2020 through fiscal year 2023 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill will cost \$141,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$817,000 over the four-year financial plan to implement.

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<sup>1</sup> By amending the Human Rights Act of 1977, effective July 17, 1985 (D.C. Law 6-8; D.C. Official Code § 2-1401.01 *et seq.*).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 23-434, "Strengthening Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2020," Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on January 8, 2020

The Office of Human Rights (OHR) will need one additional Investigator to conduct intake and investigations and one Public Affairs Specialist to conduct outreach and trainings on the rights covered in the bill. OHR currently employs one Public Affairs Specialist who cannot absorb the additional workload. OHR will also need funds to conduct an outreach campaign, purchase computers for newly hired employees, and secure office space for new employees.

Bill 23-434 - Strengthening Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2020					
Total Cost					
	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Total
Salary <sup>(a)</sup>	\$77,000	\$160,000	\$164,000	\$169,000	\$570,000
Fringe <sup>(b)</sup>	\$18,000	\$37,000	\$38,000	\$39,000	\$132,000
Outreach Campaign	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
IT and Phone	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,000
Office Space <sup>(c)</sup>	\$22,000	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$91,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$141,000</b>	<b>\$220,000</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>	<b>\$231,000</b>	<b>\$817,000</b>

Table Notes:

- (a) Includes one Grade-12, Step 5 Investigator and one Grade-11, Step 5 Public Affairs Specialist. Assumes March 1, 2020 start date and 3 percent cost growth.
- (b) Assumes 23 percent fringe benefit rate.
- (c) Assumes 200 sq. ft. of office space per employee and lease costs of \$55.50 per square foot and 1.75 percent cost growth.