


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, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement - Behavioral Health Third Party Payor  
Emergency and Temporary Amendment Acts of 2018

**REFERENCE:** Draft introductions as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on  
January 22, 2018

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**Conclusion**

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

**Background**

The bill allows<sup>1</sup> managed care organizations to exchange behavioral health information with the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) to improve coordination of patient care. Current law does not cover the transmission of behavioral health information through DHCF even though it is one of the primary ways in which health care providers transmit information to one another.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the proposed fiscal year 2018 through fiscal year 2021 budget and financial plan to implement the bills. The transmission of behavioral health information through DHCF will likely reduce inefficiencies and improve coordination of care. Although such improvements may result in cost savings for the agency due to better health outcomes, DHCF is unable to estimate the extent or timing of such savings.

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<sup>1</sup> By amending Section 301 of the District of Columbia Mental Health Information Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-136; D.C. Official Code § 7-1203.01).