

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 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Emergency Amendment Act of 2021

REFERENCE: Draft Bill as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on January 13, 2021

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

Fusion centers are state-owned and operated centers that receive, analyze, gather, and share threat related information between state, local, federal, and private sector partners.¹ The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Administration (HSEMA) currently operates a fusion center known as the National Capital Region Threat Intelligence Consortium,² which is a participant in the national network of fusion centers.

The bill formally establishes, within the statute, a fusion center within HSEMA and designates both the broader agency and the fusion center as law enforcement entities. The bill formally establishes the fusion center's role to receive, coordinate, and facilitate the sharing of resources, expertise, and information among law enforcement, first responder, and criminal justice agencies. The fusion center's mission is to detect and prevent criminal and terrorist activity and investigate and respond

¹ <https://www.dhs.gov/fusion-centers>.

² <https://hsema.dc.gov/NTIC>.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Emergency Amendment Act of 2021,"
Draft bill as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on January 13, 2021

to these activities. The bill's designation of the agency and fusion center as law enforcement entities will allow them to receive, analyze, handle, and share the necessary intelligence and records needed to fulfill the fusion center's responsibilities.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The fusion center currently exists and is funded at approximately \$3.4 million in the fiscal year 2021 budget. The bill's designation of the agency and the fusion center as law enforcement entities will ensure they can receive any intelligence and records needed to fulfill their missions and there are no costs associated with this designation.