


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: February 20, 2018

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Optometry Practice Amendment Act of 2018

REFERENCE: Draft Introduction as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on
February 7, 2018

Conclusion

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

Background

The bill allows¹ licensed optometrists to obtain a Department of Health (DOH) Pharmaceutical Control Division registration to permit them to prescribe a seven-day supply of certain controlled substances. Currently, patients of optometrists in the District must schedule an appointment with a second health care provider, such as a physician, to receive medication for eye-related health problems. The bill will allow optometrists to administer or prescribe antibiotics, antihistamines, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, medication for the initiation of immediate emergency treatment of glaucoma, analgesics included in Schedules III through V controlled substances, and analgesics included in Schedule II controlled substances consisting of hydrocodone in combination with acetaminophen. Optometrists may also administer or prescribe injectable systemic drugs to counter anaphylactic reactions.

Financial Plan Impact

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

¹ By amending The Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 et seq.).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Optometry Practice Amendment Act of 2018," Draft Introduction as shared with the Office of Revenue
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DOH will generate additional revenue because optometrists will pay application fees for controlled substance registrations. Approximately 230 optometrists actively practice in the District and DOH requires each applicant to pay a \$130 biennial fee to maintain an active registration. DOH estimates that approximately fifty percent of optometrists will apply for a controlled substance registration. This will generate approximately \$7,500 each year in application fees and registration renewals. In total the bill will result in \$30,000 of additional special purpose revenue over the four-year financial plan.

Optometry Practice Amendment Act of 2018					
Total Fiscal Impact					
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	Total
Additional Application Fee Revenue	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$30,000