

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 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Pre-K Student Discipline Amendment Act of 2015

REFERENCE: Draft Bills sent to the Office of Revenue Analysis on February 23, 2015

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The bill prohibits¹ the expulsion of a Pre-K aged student from publicly funded Pre-K programs. It also prohibits the use of out-of-school suspension as a disciplinary tool beginning school year 2015-2016, unless a school or program administrator determines that the student attempted or threatened to cause, or caused, serious bodily injury. Even then, a school cannot suspend a student for more than three days.

Each public charter school and the District of Columbia Public Schools² would be required to report all out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and expulsions that occurred during the preceding school year within 60 days of the end of the school year. Charter Schools and DCPS must disaggregate data by campus, grade level, gender, race/ethnicity, English language learner status,

¹ By amending Title 38 of the D.C. Official Code to add new § 38-276.01.

² The bill references local education agencies. Each public charter school is a local education agency. DCPS is one local education agency.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Pre-K Student Discipline Amendment Act of 2015, Draft Bill as shared with the Office of Revenue
Analysis on February 23, 2015

special education status, and at-risk status.³ The Office of the State Superintendent of Education will aggregate these reports and publish its findings for each public school.⁴

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the legislation. The Office of the State Superintendent of Education, District of Columbia Public Schools, and District of Columbia Public Charter Schools can implement student discipline restrictions and reporting requirements at no additional cost.

³ The report must include students suspended 1-5 days, 5-10 days, and 10 or more days; students receiving more than one suspension a year; students referred to an alternate educational setting for the course of a suspension; a description of the actions that led to suspension; students expelled; and students who transferred or withdrew from the school during the school year.

⁴ By October 1 beginning in 2016.