

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 21, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Child Support Guideline Revision Act of 2016

**REFERENCE:** Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on  
January 20, 2016

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill revises<sup>1</sup> and updates child support order guidelines. Specifically the bill:

- Expands the definition of a paying parent's gross income to include in-kind compensation from military housing and food allowances;
- Increases the presumptive monthly child support payment minimum from \$50 to \$75;
- Expands the terms a judicial officer may consider to determine whether a \$75 minimum monthly child support payment is justified;
- Allows judicial officers to enter a minimum monthly child support order of \$75 when paying parents are uncooperative and have no reliable income information;
- Requires judicial officers to consider a child's well-being and the subsistence needs of the parent owed support when applying the paying parent's self-support reserve; and
- Establishes the first day of the month following a child support agreement as the default child support payment start date when a start date is not specified.

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<sup>1</sup> By amending § 16-916.01, Child Support Guideline, of the District of Columbia Official Code.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Child Support Guideline Revision Act of 2016," Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue  
Analysis on January 20, 2015

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. There is no cost to the District to implement the child support order changes outlined in the legislation.