

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:** November 15, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act of 2016

**REFERENCE:** Bill 21-890, Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 14, 2016

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2020 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill requires official publishers<sup>1</sup> of electronic legal materials<sup>2</sup> to designate the electronic record<sup>3</sup> as official. Publishers are required to authenticate electronic records by providing a method that proves a record is unaltered. Publishers must ensure the integrity of the record and backup legal materials in the event of a disaster. When developing authentication standards, publishers must consider standards and practices of other jurisdictions, the needs of government officials, and technological limitations. Consideration must be given to promote uniformity of the law with states that enact similar legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> 'Official Publishers' include the General Counsel of the Council of the District of Columbia, the Office of the Secretary, and the Executive Office of the Mayor.

<sup>2</sup> Legal materials include acts and resolutions of the Council of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Official Code, the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, and legal materials designated by the Mayor by rule.

<sup>3</sup> Records include tangible medium that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act of 2016," Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 14, 2016.

### **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2020 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The General Counsel of the Council of the District of Columbia, the Office of the Secretary, and the Executive Office of the Mayor do not require additional resources to implement the bill.