

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Jeff DeWitt
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Jeff DeWitt
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: September 9, 2014

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Repeal of Prostitution Free Zones and Drug Free Zones Amendment Act of 2014

REFERENCE: Bill 20-760, Draft Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on August 28, 2014

Conclusion

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

Background

In 1997¹ and 2007,² the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) received the authority to establish drug free zones and prostitution free zones respectively. In general, the determination of an area of the District as a drug or prostitution free zone allows MPD to secure the area for up to 480 hours and prohibit the congregation of groups of two or more persons in public space within the zone who are suspected of engaging in the banned activity.

The bill repeals both laws establishing the ability of MPD to declare that a public area is a drug or prostitution free zone.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. Neither a drug free zone nor a prostitution free zone has been declared in the District since

¹ Anti-Loitering/Drug Free Zone Act of 1996, effective June 3, 1997 (D.C. Law 11-270; D.C. Official Code § 48-1001 *et seq.*).

² Omnibus Public Safety Act of 2006, effective April 24, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-306; D.C. Official Code § 22-2731).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 20-760, "Repeal of Prostitution Free Zones and Drug Free Zones Amendment Act of 2014," Draft Committee Print shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on August 28, 2014

January 2012 when the Office of the Attorney General raised constitutional issues around the laws and their implementation. There are no costs associated with implementation of the bill.