


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



Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: March 22, 2024

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Vulnerable Youth Guardianship Protection
Amendment Act of 2023

REFERENCE: Bill 25-44, Draft Committee print as provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on December 12, 2023

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2024 through fiscal year 2027 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

District courts do not currently have jurisdiction over unmarried noncitizens between the ages of 18 and 21 unless they are already in the Child and Family Services Agency's custody or were previously found to be neglected.

The bill allows the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to appoint, modify and terminate a new class of guardianship for unmarried, noncitizen individuals between the ages of 18 and 21, provided the individual or a petitioner seeks guardianship. The bill establishes the criteria under which guardianship for this class of individuals may be requested, the factors that the Courts will consider in determining whether to appoint a guardian, and the procedure for terminating guardianship. No changes are made to the existing guardianship provisions covering children under the age of 18 or other groups of vulnerable adults.

Financial Plan Impact

There is no cost to the District from creating a new class of guardianship for certain vulnerable youth.