

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



**Natwar M. Gandhi**  
Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Kwame R. Brown  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Natwar M. Gandhi  
Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** March 19, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – “Early Childhood Education Act of 2011”

**REFERENCE:** Bill Number 19-566 – As Introduced

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2012 through FY 2015 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill requires the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) to ensure a reasonable expectation that 3 and 4 year olds are prepared for kindergarten; ensure a reasonable expectation that students entering the 4th grade will be able to read independently, add, subtract, multiply, and divide; to require the Chancellor to track and measure progress for each designated level from age 3 to the 4th grade; ensure a reasonable expectation all 3rd graders entering the 4th grade can read independently, add, subtract, multiply, and divide; to ensure the Chancellor develops a curriculum that achieves the goal of preparing 3 and 4 year olds for kindergarten and 3rd graders for a 4th grade curriculum; to examine the curriculum to ensure that it is effective; to ensure the Chancellor develops a plan for children who do not meet the goal of reading independently, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing upon entering the 4th grade; and, report to the Mayor and the Council the readiness for all 3 and 4 year olds for entrance into kindergarten and the readiness for all 3rd grade students for entrance into the 4th grade.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2012 through FY 2015 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the bill. DCPS already has these goals and tracks the progress towards achieving the goals through various existing programs, so codifying them in the law does not create any additional costs.