

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 22, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – “Protecting Foster Children from Identity Theft Proposed Rules Approval Resolution of 2011”

**REFERENCE:** Draft Legislation Shared with the OCFO on March 14, 2011

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2011 through FY 2014 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

**Background**

The proposed resolution would amend<sup>1</sup> Title 29 (Public Welfare) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations by adding a new Chapter 84 entitled Protecting Foster Children from Identity Theft. This new chapter would require the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) to request a credit disclosure report on behalf of each ward of the agency under 18, assist wards over 18 to obtain a credit report, develop a list of organizations that provide credit counseling services to victims of identity theft, and refer wards to only those organizations on the list.

Under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, a person is entitled to one free credit report per year. This credit report can be obtained through a central website,<sup>2</sup> a toll-free telephone number, or through the mail.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to section 303(a)(16)(E) of the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977, effective September 23, 1977 (D.C. Law 2-22; D.C. Official Code §§ 4-1301.01 *et seq.*), and section 2 of the Foster Care Youth Identity Protection Amendment Act of 2010 effective May 27, 2010 (D.C. Law 18-162; §§ 4-1301.02 and 1303.03).

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.annualcreditreport.com>.

<sup>3</sup> There are three nationwide consumer reporting companies and all can be accessed through these centralized means.

The Honorable Kwame R. Brown

FIS: "Protecting Foster Children from Identity Theft Proposed Rules Approval Resolution of 2011," Draft Legislation Shared with the OCFO on March 14, 2011

### **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2011 through FY 2014 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Given the minimal time and effort required to request a credit report and the fact that the credit report itself is free, CFSA would not need any additional resources to implement the proposed legislation.