

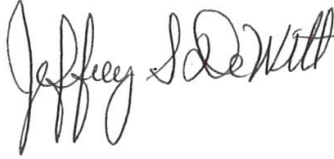
Government of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



**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:** December 3, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Certified Professional Midwife Act of 2019

**REFERENCE:** Bill 23-202, Draft Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on December 2, 2019

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**Conclusion**

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2020 budget through fiscal year 2023 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill will cost \$133,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$851,000 over the financial plan.

**Background**

The bill regulates<sup>1</sup> the scope of practice for certified professional midwifery<sup>2</sup> in the District of Columbia and qualifications for licensure by the Department of Health (DOH).

The bill also establishes an Advisory Committee on Certified Professional Midwives (Committee) under the Board of Medicine (Board) to establish regulations for the practice of Certified Professional Midwifery. Committee members must include four licensed midwives, one licensed obstetrician, one certified nurse-midwife, and one member of the general public. The Board must adopt the Committee's proposed regulations for licensing midwives. The Board must also review applications

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<sup>1</sup> By amending The District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 et seq.)

<sup>2</sup> Certified Professional Midwifery is the practice of providing primary maternity care to a client during the preconception, antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum periods and well-women care, according to the standards set forth by the North American Registry of Midwives and the National Association of Certified Professional Midwives.

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FIS: Bill 23-202, "Certified Professional Midwife Act of 2019," Draft Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on December 2, 2019

for midwife licenses, issue and renew licenses, refuse licenses, suspend licenses, charge fees for issued licenses, and investigate any violations of regulations.

The bill allows maternity centers that offer diagnostic and midwifery services for maternity patients and newborn infants to operate in the District with certification by DOH. Maternity centers must establish and publish practice and delivery guidelines consistent with national standards and District law. Maternity center guidelines must be provided to patients on an annual basis.

The bill requires health benefit plans and health insurance provided through Medicaid to cover services rendered by a licensed midwife.

### Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2020 budget through fiscal year 2023 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill will cost \$133,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$851,000 over the financial plan. DOH will need additional staff to process midwife license applications and to provide enforcement of regulations.

Bill 23-202 - Certified Professional Midwife Act of 2019					
Total Cost					
	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Total
Salary <sup>(a)</sup>	\$133,177	\$182,896	\$188,383	\$194,034	\$698,490
Fringe <sup>(b)</sup>	\$29,166	\$40,054	\$41,256	\$42,494	\$152,969
Total	\$162,342	\$222,950	\$229,639	\$236,528	\$851,460

Table Notes:

(a) Assumes one Grade-9, Step-5 Health Licensing Specialist and one Grade-11, Step-10 Nurse Specialist, and 3 percent cost growth. Assumes a start date of January 2, 2020.

(b) Assume fringe benefit rate of 21.9 percent.

DOH already certifies maternity centers in the District. The bill codifies the maternity center certification practice and does not require additional resources to implement. The Department Health Care Finance does not require additional resources to cover midwifery services through Medicaid. Coverage of midwifery services are permissible under federal Medicaid rules.