

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Linda W. Cropp
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

THROUGH: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: April 27, 2001

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement (Revised): "Term Limits Charter Amendment Act of 2001"

REFERENCE: Bill Number 14-025 as Introduced

Conclusion

Funds are not sufficient in the FY 2001 budget and the proposed FY 2002 through FY 2005 budget and financial plan because additional resources will be required to implement the proposed legislation. **The proposed legislation will result in additional unbudgeted costs to the Board of Elections and Ethics totaling over \$375,000 in the proposed FY 2002 budget.**

Anti-deficiency laws, 31USCA § 1341 (2000), prohibit District officers and employees from exceeding agency appropriations in any fiscal year. Should the Board of Elections and Ethics determine that funding is available to absorb the additional costs in FY 2001, then the net fiscal impact would be zero for this year. For subsequent years, the additional expenditures need to be included as budgeted expenditures.

Background

The proposed legislation limits to two the number of consecutive 4-year terms the Mayor, the elected members of the Board of Education, or a member of the Council of the District of Columbia may serve. The proposed legislation amends the Term Limits Initiative of 1995. As a result of the Council's consideration of this initiative, it has been decided that the issue would be settled through referendum. As such, a special election will be required.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the FY 2001 budget and the proposed FY 2002 through FY 2005 budget and financial plan to offset the costs required by the proposed legislation and the resulting referendum. The Board of Elections and Ethics has determined that the resulting special election will cost over \$375,000.