

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



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer
Office of the Chief Financial Officer

DATE: June 18, 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “Representation of the District in IV-D Cases Amendment Act of 2008”

REFERENCE: Draft Bill¹ - No Number Available

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2008 budget and proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend D.C. Official Code § 16-2341 to provide that the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) shall represent solely the interests of the District of Columbia in cases where OAG provides legal services pursuant to title IV, part D of the Social Security Act,² for the purpose of establishing paternity or establishing, modifying, or enforcing a support obligation. The proposed legislation would also terminate the existing attorney-client relationships between the OAG and individuals involved in IV-D cases.

The intent of the proposed legislation is to allow OAG to better comply with federal child support program requirements, particularly with respect to the review and modification of support orders. This would eliminate potential conflicts of interest between individuals seeking child support services and between these individuals and the District government.

¹ This fiscal impact statement is based on a draft bill submitted to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer on June 5, 2008.

² Approved January 4, 1975. 88 Stat. 2351; 42 U.S.C. § 651 *et seq.*

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2008 budget and proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Implementation of the proposed legislation means that OAG would represent solely the District of Columbia and not multiple and potentially conflicting clients in IV-D cases. This would likely allow OAG to more efficiently handle IV-D cases on behalf of the District since potential conflicts of interest would be eliminated. However, implementation of the proposed bill would not have an impact on the budget and financial plan.