

Government of the District of Columbia

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

CHAIRMAN GRAY




2008 DEC 16 AM 9:16

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 

DATE: December 15, 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “D.C. Public Schools and Public Charter Schools Suspension Reform Emergency Act of 2008”

REFERENCE: Bill Number 17-1049, Revised Introduction, December 15, 2008

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The requirements set forth by this legislation can be met through the existing agency programs funded by its existing budget.

Background

The proposed legislation would require the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools (“DCPS”) to adopt uniform standards for the appropriate use of suspension by school principals. The proposed legislation would require the Chancellor to submit a report to the Mayor and the Council by January 16, 2009 that provides details on policies regarding appropriate use of suspensions, and other suspension-related policies including principal training, alternatives to out-of-school suspension, and the procedures for the notification of parents.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. In public testimony given on December 8, 2008, representatives of the agency verified that the training requirements of the proposed legislation can be incorporated into the existing training and professional development programs, and the costs can be fully absorbed.