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: October 11, 2011

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - "911 Purity Amendment Act of 2011"

REFERENCE: Bill 19-139 as introduced on 3/1/2011

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2012 through FY 2015 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation.

Background

The Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999¹ designated 9-1-1 as the universal emergency telephone number in the United States for both wireless and wireline telephones. Users are generally aware of 9-1-1 as the number to call in an emergency situation, but there is less understanding about when not to call 9-1-1.²

The proposed legislation will establish the 9-1-1 telephone number as the exclusive number for the receipt of emergency calls and that corresponding messaging should support this exclusive use. This legislation supports the District of Columbia's "Make the Right Call" program established in 2008. The program advises that all calls requiring a physical public safety response be directed to the 9-1-1 telephone number and all calls not requiring a physical public safety response or a customer service request be directed to the 3-1-1 telephone number.

 $^{^1}$ Enacted October 26, 1999 (Pub. L. 106-81; 47 U.S.C. \S 615) - http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-106s800enr.pdf

² 911.gov

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2012 through FY 2015 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. Current Office of Unified Communication's practices under the "Make the Right Call" program are in agreement with the provisions of the proposed legislation. There is no additional fiscal impact on the Office.