


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



**Jeff DeWitt**  
Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Jeff DeWitt  
Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** June 25, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – “Special Election Reform Amendment Act of 2014”

**REFERENCE:** Bill 20-505, Committee Print provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on June 19, 2014

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2014 budget, and proposed FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill amends the special election rules for the District’s Delegate to the House of Representatives and for members of the Board of Education, giving more scheduling flexibility to the Board of Elections (BOE).

The bill requires BOE to hold special elections for these positions at least 70 days after, but no more than 174 days from, the date of vacancy, and allows for consideration of a variety of circumstantial factors. Current law requires that a special election for the Delegate or for a member of the Board of Education be held within 114 days of a vacancy, unless BOE determines it can be held on the same day as a primary or general election within 60 days.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2014 budget, and proposed FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The added flexibility for scheduling certain special elections has no negative impact on the District’s budget. In certain circumstances, it may prevent additional expenditures for a special election by allowing BOE to schedule it the same day as a previously scheduled election, when under current law, it may not have been able to do so.