

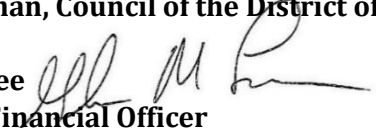
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Glen Lee 
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: October 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Arena Safety Conformity Amendment Act of 2026

REFERENCE: Bill 26-651, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on October 8, 2026

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2027 through fiscal year 2030 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The bill permanently¹ expands the prohibition on unauthorized entry onto a playing surface in the District to include Capital One Arena and CareFirst Arena, and incorporates² the development at the former site of the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium (RFK Stadium). The prohibition is already in place at Nationals Park and Audi Field.

Current law³ codifies definitions for the various sports complexes within the District to include "Baseball Stadium" and "Ballpark"⁴ (Nationals Park); "Downtown Arena"⁵ (Capital One Arena);

¹ Arena Safety Conformity Emergency Amendment Act of 2026 (D.C. Act 26-291, Apr. 8, 2026, 73 DCR 6059).

² Current law includes RFK Stadium and the bill clarifies the new development, or Football Stadium, is included.

³ D.C. Official Code § 3-342.01. D.C. Act 26-291 expires on March 14, 2027.

⁴ D.C. Official Code § 47-2002.05(a)(1)(A).

⁵ A sports and entertainment arena located at 601 F Street, N.W.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Arena Safety Conformity Amendment Act of 2026", Bill 26-651, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on October 8, 2026

"Soccer Stadium"⁶ (Audi Field); and "Southeast Arena"⁷ (CareFirst Arena). The bill adds a permanent definition for "Football Stadium" to mean a football stadium on or around the former site of RFK Stadium between C Street N.E. and Independence Avenue S.E. and makes the definitions for Capital One Arena and CareFirst Arena permanent.

Under current law⁸, individuals are prohibited from entering the playing field or playing surface⁹ of RFK Stadium, the Baseball Stadium, the Soccer Stadium, the Downtown Arena, or the Southeast Arena without explicit authorization from the facility's designated operator or authority. The bill updates the reference to RFK Stadium to reflect the bill's new term of Football Stadium to clarify that the new development is included and the provisions of the law are applicable once the development is constructed and named.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2027 through fiscal year 2030 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. This bill expands the prohibition on unauthorized entry onto a playing surface to include Capital One Arena and CareFirst Arena. The prohibition is already in place at Nationals Park and Audi Field. The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) does not require additional resources to enforce the prohibition.

⁶ A soccer stadium constructed after October 1, 2014 on a site bounded by 2nd Street, S.W., T Street, S.W., Half Street, S.W., Potomac Avenue, S.W., and R Street, S.W.

⁷ A sports and entertainment arena located at 1100 Oak Drive, S.E.

⁸ D.C. Official Code § 3-343.02.

⁹ The bill defines the terms "playing field" or "playing surface", as applicable, to mean the area encompassed by the seating facilities within the Football Stadium, the Baseball Stadium, the Soccer Stadium, the Downtown Arena, or the Southeast Arena, as such seating facilities may be arranged from time to time.