

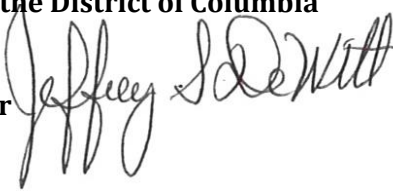
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: October 14, 2014

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Conversion Therapy for Minors Prohibition
Amendment Act of 2014

REFERENCE: Bill 20-501, Draft Committee Print shared with the Office of Revenue
Analysis on October 3, 2014

Conclusion

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

Background

The bill prohibits¹ licensed mental health providers from trying to change the sexual orientation of anyone under 18. If a provider violates this law, the board that gave the provider their license can take a number of disciplinary actions, including revoking the provider's license, making them attend training or fining them up to \$5,000.² Most mental health providers receive their license from the Allied and Behavioral Health Boards, though some receive licenses from other boards like the Board of Medicine.³

Financial Plan Impact

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

¹ By amending the Mental Health Service Delivery Reform Act of 2001, effective December 18, 2001 (D.C. Law 14-56; D.C. Official Code § 7-1231.01 *et seq.*).

² For a full list of allowable disciplinary actions see D.C. Code § 3-1205.14.

³ According to Robin Jenkins, Executive Director of the Allied and Behavioral Health Boards.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: B20-501, "Conversion Therapy for Minors Prohibition Amendment Act of 2014," Draft Committee Print shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on October 3, 2014

The Allied and Behavioral Health Board thinks the number of cases related to changing a minor's sexual orientation would be small.⁴ This mirrors the experience of California's Board of Psychology, which has received no more than eight complaints a year related to this issue.⁵ Therefore, the Office of Revenue expects these cases will not be a significant source of revenue for licensing boards nor will they create a big enough investigatory burden to require additional staff. Therefore, this bill has no fiscal impact.

⁴ According to Robin Jenkins, Executive Director of the Allied and Behavioral Health Boards.

⁵ According to Sandra Monterrubio, Enforcement Program Manager for California's Board of Psychology.