


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



Jeffrey S. DeWitt  
Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** Jeffrey S. DeWitt  
Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** July 7, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Behavioral Health Coordination of Care  
Amendment Act of 2015

**REFERENCE:** Draft Bill 21-7, shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on July 1,  
2015

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

This bill allows<sup>1</sup> behavioral health care providers to transfer a patient's medical record to other health care providers without seeking the patient's permission. Patients can opt out of this and request that their records only be shared with their approval. Currently behavioral health care providers must get a patient's approval each time they transfer a patient's medical record.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill has no cost to District government. The Department of Behavioral Health has already implemented a procedure similar to that in the bill and it has not incurred any costs from this.

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<sup>1</sup> By amending the District of Columbia Mental Health Information Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-136; D.C. Official Code § 7-1203.01 *et seq.*).