


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: January 20, 2026

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Child Fatality Review Committee
Amendment Act of 2025

REFERENCE: Child Fatality Review Committee Amendment Act of 2025 as provided
to the Office of Revenue Analysis on January 9, 2026

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

Current law¹ requires the Mayor to make appointments² to the Child Fatality Review Committee (CFRC), which is tasked with identifying and characterizing the scope and nature of child deaths in the District; examining past events and circumstances surrounding those deaths, through review of pertinent documents of relevant public and private agencies; developing and revising operating rules and procedures for the review of those deaths; and making recommendations regarding systemic

¹ The Child Fatality Review Committee Establishment Act of 2001, effective October 3, 2001 (D.C. Law 14-28: D.C. Official Code § 4-1371 et. seq.).

² One representative each from the Departments/Offices/Agencies of Human Services; Health; OCME; Child and Family Services; Metropolitan Police; Fire and Emergency Medical Services; D.C. Public Schools; Housing Authority; Attorney General; Behavioral Health; Health Care Finance; Youth Rehabilitation Services; Superintendent of Education; Public Charter School Board; and Gun Violence Prevention. Representatives from the Superior Court of the District; Office of the United States Attorney for the District; District hospitals where children are born or treated; college or university schools of social work; and the Mayor's Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. Eight community representatives, none of whom shall be employees of the District.

improvements, prevention and education programs, and training. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is tasked with providing administrative support to the Committee.¹

In addition to appointments by the Mayor, the Council is required to appoint at least one representative from the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children; and Council Committee Chairpersons—or their designees—with jurisdiction over judiciary and human services matters, are required to serve on CFRC.

The bill amends the Council Committee Chairperson stipulation to require those with jurisdiction over judiciary and child and family services matters, or their designees, to serve as CFRC members. This would make the Chairman of the Committee on Youth Affairs a permanent addition to the composition of CFRC.³

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill makes permanent changes to the law that are currently instituted on a temporary basis.⁴ The OCME can provide administrative support using existing resources.

³ Diaz, Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. F. J. (2025, December 4). Testimony Before the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety on B26-0411, Child Fatality Review Committee Amendment Act of 2025.

⁴ Child Fatality Review Committee Temporary Amendment Act of 2025, effective August 16, 2025 (D.C. Law 26-23; 72 DCR 9562).