# 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 Hier Schull

**Jeffrey S. DeWitt** FROM:

**Chief Financial Officer** 

November 15, 2020 DATE:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement - Commemoration Task Force Act of 2020

**REFERENCE:** Bill 23-234, Committee Print provided to the Office of Revenue

Analysis on November 10, 2020

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

## **Background**

The bill establishes a Commemoration Task Force ("Task Force") for the purpose of reviewing existing commemorative works1 and public space names, including buildings and street names, to evaluate if the work or name is offensive to the public or the District's Human Rights Act of 1977. The Task Force must develop a process to solicit public input and submit a report to Council by December 31, 2021. The report must list any works deemed to be inappropriate along with recommended actions. The Task Force will be comprised of five members appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with at least two academics in the field of history, one member of the D.C. Historical Society, and one representative of an organization that seeks to advance racial equity in the District. The law will expire, and the Task Force sunsets upon submission of the report to Council.

The bill also requires the Office of Planning to provide several documents from the DC Facilities and Commemorative Expressions Working Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A commemorative work is a statue, monument, sculpture, streetscape, landscape or other structure or feature that is designed to perpetuate the memory of an individual, event or other significant element of culture or history. D.C. Official Code § 9-204.11(1)(B).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Commemoration Task Force Act of 2020," Bill 23-234, Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 10, 2020.

## **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The Council can provide administrative and technical support to the Task Force within its current resources.