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



**Fitzroy Lee** Chief Financial Officer

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson

Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

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FROM: Fitzroy Lee

**Chief Financial Officer** 

**DATE:** July 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - Earned Income Tax Credit Expansion

**Clarification Amendment Act of 2022** 

REFERENCE: Bill 24-616, Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue

Analysis on June 29, 2022

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2022 and proposed fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

## **Background**

Federal and District Earned Income Tax Credits¹ ("EITCs") are refundable income tax credits for low and moderate income workers. When the Department of Human Services determines eligibility for public assistance programs² such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, EITCs are not considered part of an individual's earned income.³

The District's EITC was recently increased and from 2023 will be paid through periodic payments<sup>4</sup>. The bill clarifies that EITCs, and other refundable tax credits are not considered part of an individual's earned income for purposes of determining eligibility for public assistance. The bill also conforms the definition of income for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For background on the Federal EITC, visit (<a href="https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit-eitc">https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit-eitc</a>) and for background on the District EITC, visit <a href="https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/earned-income-tax-credit-dc">https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/earned-income-tax-credit-dc</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> D.C. Official Code § 4-202.01.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> D.C. Official Code § 4-205.05(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Earned Income Tax Credit as Basic Income Amendment Act of 2021, D.C Law 24-45

The Honorable Phil Mendelson FIS: Bill 24-616, "Earned Income Tax Credit Expansion Clarification Amendment Act of 2022," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on June 8, 2022

## **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2022 and proposed fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill is a clarification of current law, which already disregards Earned Income Tax Credits for the purpose of determining eligibility for public assistance programs. The clarification is not expected to change the total number of people eligible for public assistance.