

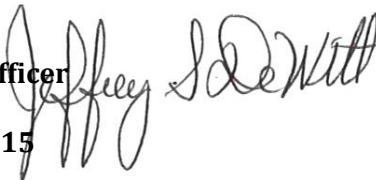
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: November 18, 2015

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “Extreme Temperature Safety Amendment Act of 2015”

REFERENCE: Draft Committee Print shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 10, 2015

Conclusion

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

Background

The bill prohibits electric¹ and gas² utilities from disconnecting residential electric or gas service when it is expected to get extremely hot (95 degrees Fahrenheit or above) or extremely cold (below 32 degrees Fahrenheit). The utilities cannot disconnect service during the day preceding or the day for which the National Weather Service forecasts a very hot or cold day; they also cannot disconnect service during a holiday or a weekend that follows a very hot or cold day.

District municipal regulations already prohibit District’s electricity and gas utilities from disconnecting residential service on days for which the forecast is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit.³ Since 2007, the District has passed emergency, and temporary legislation that prohibit electric

¹ The bill amends the Retail Electric Competition and Consumer Protection Act of 1999, effective May 9, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-107; D.C. Official Code § 34-1501 *et seq.*)

² The bill amends the Retail Natural Gas Supplier Licensing and Consumer Protection Act of 2004, effective March 16, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-227; D.C. Official Code § 34-1671.02 *et seq.*)

³ DCMR 15-310, Public Utilities and Cable Television, Consumer Rights and Responsibilities, Grounds for Disconnection, 55 DCR 12494 (December 12, 2008).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

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utilities from disconnecting service during extremely hot day.⁴ The bill codifies all these prohibitions permanently in the District code.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. There is no budgetary impact from this prohibition.

⁴ These temporary and emergency legislation date back to 2007. The latest emergency bill that imposed the prohibition on electricity companies was the Heat Wave Safety Emergency Amendment Act of 2015, enacted June 17, 2015 (D.C. Act 21-82; 62 DCR 8829).