

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 7, 2016

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Green Yards Recognition Act of 2016

REFERENCE: Bill 21-882, Draft Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 3, 2016

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2020 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed bill.

Background

The bill establishes a Green Yards Recognition Program managed by the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE). DOEE must produce a guide for residents and businesses that provides guidance on safe and sustainable grounds maintenance practices including participation in the Riversmart Homes Program,¹ use of integrated pest management techniques,² use of minimum risk or organic pesticides,³ and use of electric- and battery-powered lawn care equipment. DOEE must create a form, available online, for residents and businesses to voluntarily certify they use safe and sustainable methods and thus qualify for the Program. DOEE should provide a yard sign⁴ for certified residents and businesses to display their conformity with safe and sustainable grounds maintenance practices.

¹ <http://doee.dc.gov/service/riversmart-homes>

² As defined in the Pesticide Education and Control Amendment Act of 2012, effective October 23, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-191; D.C. Official Code § 8-431(8)).

³ As those are defined by the National Organic Standards Board (7 U.S.C. § 6518). Residents could also use minimum risk pesticides as identified in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (40 C.F.R. § 152.25(f)).

⁴ The bill allows DOEE to charge a fee for the cost of the yard sign.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 21-882, "Green Yards Recognition Act of 2016," Draft Committee Print as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 3, 2016

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2020 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. DOEE can absorb the costs associated with producing a guide of safe and sustainable practices, developing a certification form, and providing yard signs to certified residents and businesses within its existing resources. DOEE may also charge a fee to recover the costs of the yard signs.