

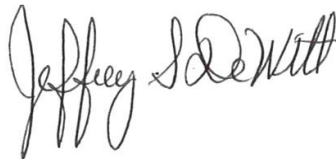
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: February 27, 2020

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Hearing Aid Sales Amendment Act of 2020

REFERENCE: Bill 23-565, Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on February 18, 2020

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2020 through fiscal year 2023 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

Individuals in the District of Columbia must be examined by a licensed otolaryngologist and receive written medical consent before they can purchase a hearing aid. The bill allows¹ licensed physicians that are not specialized in otolaryngology to give medical clearance to patients to purchase hearing aids. The bill also gives individuals over eighteen the option to purchase a hearing aid after being examined by a licensed audiologist or by signing a Department of Health (DOH) waiver form.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2020 through fiscal year 2023 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. Allowing physicians and audiologists to clear patients for hearing aid use does not have a cost. DOH can produce a waiver form to be used by individuals without additional resources.

¹ By amending the Hearing Aid Dealers and Consumer Act of 1977, effective October 26, 1977 (D.C. Law 2-33; D.C. Official Code § 28-4001 et seq.).