

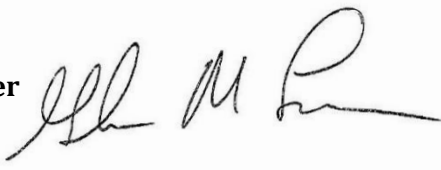
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: October 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Amendment Act of 2022

REFERENCE: Bill 24-561 – Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on October 3, 2022

Conclusion

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

Background

Fusion centers are state-owned and operated centers that receive, analyze, gather, and share threat related information between state, local, federal, and private sector partners.¹ The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Administration (HSEMA) currently operates a fusion center known as the National Capital Region Threat Intelligence Consortium,² which is a participant in the national network of fusion centers.

The bill formally establishes the fusion center within HSEMA and designates both the agency and the fusion center as law enforcement entities. In addition, the bill formally establishes the fusion center's role to receive, coordinate, and facilitate the sharing of resources, expertise, and information among law enforcement, first responder, and criminal justice agencies. The fusion center's mission is to detect and prevent criminal and terrorist activity and investigate and respond to these activities. The

¹ <https://www.dhs.gov/fusion-centers>.

² <https://hsema.dc.gov/NTIC>.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 24-561, "Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Amendment Act of 2022," Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on October 3, 2022

bill's designation of HSEMA and the fusion center as law enforcement entities will allow them to receive, analyze, handle, and share the necessary intelligence and records needed to fulfill the fusion center's responsibilities.

The bill requires HSEMA to submit an annual report to the Council on the fusion center's operations during the prior year. The report must include:

- A description of the fusion center's structure, staffing, and budget;
- A general narrative about the types of cases, crimes, incidents, and reports the fusion center has reviewed and evaluated;
- Any privacy audits performed in the prior year; and,
- A copy of the policy for receiving, analyzing and coordinating information with law enforcement agencies.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. HSEMA receives federal grants that allow the agency to operate the fusion center. The fusion center is funded at approximately \$4.9 million annually. The bill's designation of HSEMA and the fusion center as law enforcement entities will ensure they can receive any intelligence and records needed to fulfill their missions and there are no costs associated with this designation. HSEMA can complete the required annual reporting to Council on fusion center operations with existing resources.