

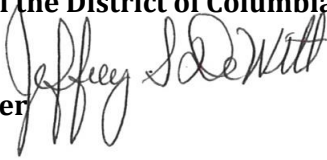
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: January 3, 2019

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Let Our Vows Endure Emergency
Amendment Act of 2019

REFERENCE: Draft Bill as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on January 3,
2019

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2019 through fiscal year 2022 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The Clerk of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia issues marriage licenses, licenses officiants, and receives marriage certifications from officiants in the District. The Clerk charges fees for services, produces certified copies of marriage licenses, and keeps all records of its transactions.

The bill extends some of the Clerk's authorities to the Mayor. These include the authority for the Mayor or her or his designee to license an officiant or temporary officiant, determine an applicant's eligibility for marriage in the District, provide the appropriate forms and recordkeeping, and accept marriage license applications and certificates. The bill requires the Mayor to transmit any marriage licenses issued and marriage certifications returned by an officiant to the Clerk of the Superior Court within five business days.

The Mayor's authority is applicable only during periods of time when the Clerk of the Superior Court is not issuing licenses due to a total or partial federal government shutdown. This authority is only in effect for ninety days under the emergency bill.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Let Our Vows Endure Emergency Amendment Act of 2019," Draft Bill as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on January 3, 2019

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2019 through fiscal year 2022 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The Mayor can absorb any costs associated with creating marriage and officiant licensing forms, keeping the appropriate records, and transmitting records to the Clerk of the Superior Court with existing budgeted resources.

The Mayor will not charge fees for these services, nor issue penalties when an officiant marriage certification is not timely returned,¹ so there are no revenue implications associated with the bill's granting of these authorities to the Mayor.

¹ An officiant must return a marriage license within ten days of the marriage rites.