

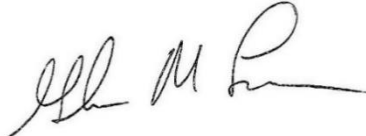
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: November 15, 2024

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Losing Outdated, Violent Exceptions
Amendment Act of 2024

REFERENCE: Bill 25-43, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on November 13, 2024

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2025 through fiscal year 2028 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The bill removes the religious exception¹ to the District’s child neglect law. Choosing to treat a sick child solely by spiritual means in accordance with religious beliefs will no longer be an automatic exemption in the District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) investigative protocol to determine if abuse or neglect has occurred. CFSA protocol will still consider a parent’s religious beliefs and reasons for refusing medical treatment in its investigations.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2025 through the fiscal year 2028 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The removal of the exemption does not impact CFSA’s overall funded investigatory responsibilities.

¹ D.C. Official Code § 4-1321.06.