

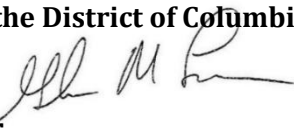
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: June 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Open Meetings Clarification Amendment Act
of 2026

REFERENCE: Bill 26-208, Draft Committee Print as Provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on May 26, 2026

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed revised fiscal year 2026 budget and proposed fiscal year 2027 through fiscal year 2030 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The District requires that certain gatherings of public officials to conduct official business be held open to the public. The bill clarifies that a meeting, as it relates to the Council of the District of Columbia, only means regular or additional legislative meetings and committee meetings where votes are taken. The bill adds the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to the list of entities that are not considered public bodies, thereby exempting CJCC from the District's open meetings requirements.

The bill expands what it means for a meeting to be open to the public to include any meeting where the public body takes steps to allow the public to view or listen while the meeting is occurring or soon thereafter. The bill also expands a public body's ability to close a public meeting for the discussion of methods and procedures to protect the public in the face of a terrorist threat or other substantial danger against the public to include threats or dangers to a public body itself. The bill exempts a meeting from being open to the public if it involves the Mayor and members of the Council and no official actions are decided at the meeting.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 26-208, "Open Meetings Clarification Amendment Act of 2026," Draft Committee Print as Provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on May 26, 2026

These changes are currently in effect under emergency legislation.¹

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the proposed revised fiscal year 2026 budget and proposed fiscal year 2027 through fiscal year 2030 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill makes permanent changes that are currently in effect, and no additional budgeted resources are required to implement the bill.

¹ Open Meetings Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2026, enacted April 18, 2026 (D.C. Act 26-297; 73 DCR 6260).