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 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - Peace DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2025

REFERENCE: Bill 26-187, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue

Analysis on June 10, 2025

Conclusion

Funds are not sufficient in the proposed revised fiscal year 2025 budget and proposed fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill costs \$15,000 in fiscal year 2025 and has an unknown impact on the District's annual contribution to the District of Columbia Police Officers and Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Plan) over the financial plan. This fiscal impact statement will be updated after an actuarial analysis of the bill's impact on the Plan is completed.

Background

The bill allows¹ special police officers to issue citations and make arrests if individuals commit certain infractions while riding on transportation operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). The bill also makes changes as to how fare evasion citations are adjudicated by the Office of Administrative Hearings. The bill requires that fare evasion citations be adjudicated under the procedures outlined in the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs Civil Infractions Act of 1985² rather than the Marijuana Possession Decriminalization Amendment Act of 2014.³

¹ By amending Section 6-A1101 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations.

² D.C. Law 6-42.

³ D.C. Law 20-126.

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FIS: "Peace DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2025," Bill 26-187, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on June 10, 2025

The bill allows⁴ applicants for sworn officer positions in the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to count some or all of their initial MPD Academy recruit training towards the 60-credit hour post-secondary education hiring requirement, as long as MPD enters into an agreement with an accredited college or university for their initial training program.

The bill expands⁵ eligibility for line of duty death benefits to include Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS) members and former members who die within two years of retirement from performance-of-duty illness or injury under the District's presumptive disability from cancer statute.⁶ Extending this benefit entitles widows, widowers, and in some instances children of members or former members who die from performance-of-duty related cancer to a lump sum payment and an annuity equal to 100 percent of the member's or former member's pay. Current law entitles these individuals to a smaller annuity.⁷ Survivor benefits are paid to eligible individuals through the Plan. The bill sets an applicability date of January 1, 2024, for expanded line of duty death benefits.

The Second Chance Amendment Act of 20228 established processes and timeframes for automatic and by-motion record sealing and expungement for certain criminal records. The Secure DC Omnibus Act of 20249 changed the deadline for automatic sealing and expungement to October 1, 2027. Due to a drafting error, the language of the permanent law could be interpreted to have a deadline of March 1, 2025, two years prior to the intended applicability date. The bill 102 that the automatic sealing and expungement provisions in the Second Chance Act are effective October 1, 2027, or within 90 days of the expiration of the waiting period defined in the bill.

The bill also repeals¹¹ the sunset date for the rebuttable presumption for pretrial detention of youth and adults charged with crimes of violence.

The bill also makes several technical changes to existing criminal procedure law to correct outdated references in the D.C. Code.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the proposed revised fiscal year 2025 budget and proposed fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill costs \$15,000 in fiscal year 2025 and has an unknown impact on the District's annual contribution to the District of Columbia Police Officers and Firefighters' Retirement Plan over the financial plan.

⁴ By amending Section 202(e)(1) of the Omnibus Police Reform Amendment Act of 2000, effective October 4, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-160; D.C. Official Code § 5–107.01(e)(1)).

⁵ Section 653(a) of the Fire and Police Medical Leave and Limited Duty Amendment Act of 2004, effective May 1, 2013 (D.C. Law 19-311; D.C. Official Code § 5-653(a)).

⁶ By amending The Policemen and Firemen's Retirement and Disability Act, approved September 1, 1916 (39 Stat. 718; D.C. Official Code § 5-716.).

⁷ D.C. Official Code § 5-653(b).

⁸ D.C. Law 24-284.

⁹ D.C. Law 25-175.

 $^{^{10}}$ By amending Section 101(b) of the Second Chance Amendment Act of 2022, effective March 10, 2023 (D.C. Law 24-284; 70 DCR 913).

¹¹ By amending The Secure DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2024, effective June 8, 2024 (D.C. Law 25-175; 71 DCR 2732).

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Extending line of duty death benefits to include FEMSmembers and former members who die within two years of retirement from job-related cancer may increase the District's annual contribution to the Plan due to larger annuity payouts to survivors. To determine if there is an increase, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) must contract with a vendor to complete an actuarial study on expanded survivor benefits at a cost of \$15,000. This fiscal impact statement will be updated to incorporate findings from the actuarial study once they are available.

Allowing applicants for sworn officer positions at MPD to count some or all of their initial MPD Academy recruitment training towards the 60-credit hour post-secondary education requirement does not have a cost. MPD plans to use existing resources to enter into an agreement with an accredited college or university to provide initial training.

There is no cost to allowing special police officers to issue citations to individuals who commit infractions while using WMATA transportation. There is also no cost to changing how fare evasion cases are adjudicated. Making permanent clarifications to automatic record sealing process and repealing the pre-trial detention sunset does not have a cost. Likewise, making technical changes to existing law does not have a cost.