

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:** March 16, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Ralph J. Bunche Way Designation Act of 2026

**REFERENCE:** Bill 26-550, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on March 16, 2026

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche was a professor and chair of Howard University's Political Science Department. Dr. Bunche also worked at the State Department and United Nations. While with the United Nations, he served as the acting United Nations mediator on Palestine, negotiating peace between Israel and the Arab states in the late 1940s. Dr. Bunche was awarded the Noble Peace Prize in 1950. Dr. Bunche was active in the Civil Rights movement, leading the civil rights march in Montgomery, Alabama with Dr. Martin Luther King and supporting programs of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League. Dr. Bunche died in 1971.<sup>1</sup>

The bill symbolically designates 15<sup>th</sup> Street, N.E. between Jackson Street, N.E. and Kearney Street, N.E. as Ralph J. Bunche Way. Dr. Bunche lived on the 1500 block of Jackson Street, N.E. and his home is a District historic site.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Ralph Bunche – Biographical - NobelPrize.org](https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1950/bunche/biographical/)

<sup>2</sup> [Ralph Bunche House - Located in Brookland, the Ralph Bunche house was built for the Nobel Peace Prize laureate by Hilyard R. Robinson. | DC Historic Sites](https://www.dchistoricsites.org/entry/ralph-bunche-house-located-in-brookland-the-ralph-bunche-house-was-built-for-the-nobel-peace-prize-laureate-by-hilyard-r-robinson)

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 26-550, "Ralph J. Bunche Way Designation Act of 2026," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on March 16, 2026

### **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will fabricate and install two signs to symbolically designate the roadway as Ralph J. Bunche Way. The signs will cost \$255 and DDOT can absorb the cost within the agency's existing budgeted resources.