

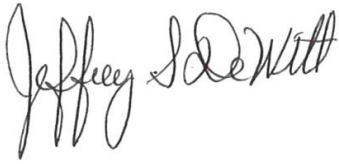
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: November 30, 2020

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Removing Barriers to Occupational Licensing
for Returning Citizens Amendment Act of 2020

REFERENCE: Bill 23-440, Committee Print provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on November 17, 2020

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The bill prohibits occupational licensing boards from disqualifying otherwise qualified candidates, solely based on an applicant's criminal record. The bill only affects occupations regulated by the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs and the Department of Health. Specifically, the bill creates standards by which boards can use criminal conviction information that is directly related to the occupation for which a license is sought.

The bill requires two reports from the Mayor. First, the Mayor must provide an annual report with details on board applications for licenses, including information on applications that proceeded to a hearing, the number of appeals, and those applications and appeals involving a criminal record. Second, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice must submit a one-time report on statutory barriers to returning citizens and provide recommendations on mitigating any barriers.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. Requiring that occupational boards consider applicants with criminal records when issuing occupational licenses does not have a fiscal impact. The cost of the required reports can be done within current resources.