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 16, 2026**
SUBJECT:	**Fiscal Impact Statement – School Health Certificate Modernization Amendment Act of 2026**
REFERENCE:	**Bill 26-725, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 3, 2026**

Conclusion

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2027 through fiscal year 2030 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill costs $600,000 in fiscal year 2028 and $800,000 over the financial plan to implement.

Background

The District requires all students attending public schools, public charter schools, private schools, and independent schools to submit an annual universal certificate of health. This certificate includes certain health information and an immunization report for every child. The bill makes several changes[1] to the certificate of health submission process. Specifically, the bill:

- Allows physician assistants to complete and sign the health certificates;
- Allows the Mayor to determine a cadence for the required submission of health certificates that is less than annual as long as caregivers can affirm annually that a student's health information has not changed since the last certificate of health;
- Requires that the certificate of health include reporting of a student's blood lead levels at specific ages or grades;
- Prohibits health care providers from charging a fee to complete a certificate of health;

[1] By amending The Student Health Care Act of 1985, effective December 3, 1985 (D.C. Law 6-66; D.C. Official Code § 38-601 et seq.).

- Requires the Department of Health (DC Health) to develop a digital platform before the start of the 2028-2029 school year for health care providers to submit certificates of health directly to the Department; and
- Allows DC Health to include certification from a dental provider of the student's last dental exam as part of the certificate of health.

The bill also makes several public health related administrative changes, including:

- Transferring[2] responsibility for managing the epinephrine administration training program from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) to DC Health by July 1, 2027;
- Repealing[3] a section of D.C. Code that established the defunct Perinatal and Infant Health Advisory Committee;
- Requiring[4] DC Health to consider regional salary and fee comparisons when modifying health occupation licensing fees; and
- Redesignating[5] the District's poison control center as the Maryland Poison Center of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2027 through fiscal year 2030 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill costs $600,000 in fiscal year 2028 and $800,000 over the financial plan to implement.

DC Health requires $600,000 in fiscal year 2028 to implement the digital certificate of health platform ahead of the start of the 2028-2029 school year. This money will be used for system development, system integration, application programming interface development, and testing. The system will also require ongoing maintenance costs of $100,000 beginning in fiscal year 2029. The total cost of the digital certificate of health platform is $600,000 in fiscal year 2028 and $800,000 over the financial plan.

School Health Certificate Modernization Amendment Act of 2026 Total Cost ($ thousands)					
	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	Total
IT System and Maintenance	$0	$600	$100	$100	$800

The remaining provisions in the bill do not have a cost. DC Health already manages the Undesignated Emergency Medications program, including purchasing and distributing undesignated epinephrine.

[2] By amending The Student Access to Treatment Act of 2007, effective February 2, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-107; D.C. Official Code § 38-651.01 et seq.).
[3] By amending Title III of the Community Health Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018, effective April 11, 2019 (D.C. Law 22-290; D.C. Official Code § 7-858.01 et seq.) and Section 2(f)(69) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(f)(69)).
[4] By amending. Section 505(a)(2) of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.05).
[5] By amending Section 2 of the Poison Control Center Designation Act of 2020, effective June 24, 2020 (D.C. Law 23-120; D.C. Official Code § 7-731), Section 4a(a)(5) of the Pesticide Operations Act of 1977, effective June 5, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-168; D.C. Official Code § 8-403.01(a)(5)), and Subsection 2211.1(e) of Title 20 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (20 DCMR 2211.1(e)).

Making changes to the law that pertains to the annual submission of the certificate of health and oral health does not have a cost. Likewise, eliminating the Perinatal and Infant Health Advisory Committee, considering regional salary and fee comparisons when modifying health occupation licensing fees, and redesigning the District's poison control center do not have a cost.