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



#### **Jeff DeWitt**

Chief Financial Officer

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson

Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Jeff DeWitt

**Chief Financial Officer** 

**DATE:** June 30, 2014

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - Workers' Compensation Statute of

**Limitations Amendment Act of 2014** 

REFERENCE: Bill 20-345, Draft Committee Print as Shared with the Office of Revenue

Analysis on June 24, 2014

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

## **Background**

When an employee has been injured or has died on the job and a third party (as opposed to his or her employer) is at fault, the employee or surviving family may file a cause of action against the third party within six months following a compensation award. If the employee or surviving family does not proceed with action against the third party, the rights to take action against that party are assigned to the employee's employer and the employer's insurance provider.

The bill gives the employer ninety days to take action against the third party. If the employer does not take action, the right to take action reverts to the employee or his or her surviving family so long as the three year statute of limitations has not expired.

## **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2015 through FY 2018 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. There are no costs associated with implementation of the bill.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> District of Columbia Workers' Compensation Act of 1979, effective July 1, 1980 (D.C. Law 3-77; D.C. Official Code § 32-1535(b)).