

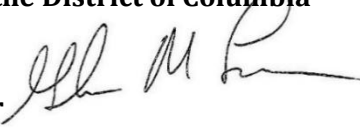
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: September 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Youth Advisory Council on Climate Change
and Environmental Conservation Establishment Act of 2025

REFERENCE: Bill 26-66, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on September 24, 2025

Conclusion

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill's implementation will cost \$132,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$545,000 over the four-year financial plan period.

Background

The District has several climate and energy-related initiatives, including measuring the energy use at public and private buildings, supporting a Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency,¹ and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The bill establishes a seventeen-member Youth Advisory on Climate Change and Environmental Conservation (Youth Climate Council) to further these efforts.

The Youth Climate Council will provide recommendations to improve the District's laws, policies, practices, and budgets that support climate change mitigation, environmental conservation, and the green workforce. The bill provides that the Mayor and each ward councilmember should appoint the members and establishes who is eligible to be a member,² the length of terms on the Youth Climate Council, and how the Youth Climate Council should function. The appointments must be made within 180 days of the bill's effective date. The bill authorizes the District to compensate members with a

¹ Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency Establishment Act of 2016, effective February 18, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-185; D.C. Official Code § 8-181.02).

² Membership includes fourteen high school students and three District youth aged 18 to 21.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 26-66, "Youth Advisory Council on Climate Change and Environmental Conservation Establishment Act of 2025," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 24, 2025

stipend of up to \$1,000 annually or the certification of service hours, and approval to receive academic credit if authorized by the individual's school. The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) may also reimburse members for any expenses incurred in the performance of their duties if funding is available.

The bill requires DOEE to provide training to Youth Climate Council members within sixty days of their appointment. The training should cover government and political processes and structures, the current environmental policy landscape, the Youth Climate Council's statutory mandates, and open government procedures. DOEE should assist the Youth Climate Council in organizing its meetings, connecting with other District agencies, and developing any reports or presentations. DOEE should also help the Youth Climate Council provide commentary on legislation and make presentations to the relevant Council committees.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are not sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill's implementation will cost \$132,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$545,000 over the four-year financial plan period.

The bill requires DOEE to support the Youth Climate Council through training, facilitating interagency coordination, and stipends. DOEE's experience supporting similar activities, such as the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency, indicates a need for one full-time staff to support the Youth Climate Council and ensure its successful implementation. The DOEE staff will cost \$115,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$477,000 over the four-year financial plan period. DOEE also requires \$17,000 annually to support the \$1,000 annual stipend for each selected member.

Bill 26-66, Youth Advisory Council on Climate Change and Environmental Conservation Establishment Act of 2025 Implementation Costs Fiscal Year 2026 – Fiscal Year 2029 (\$ thousands)					
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Total
Staff	\$115	\$118	\$121	\$124	\$477
Stipend	\$17	\$17	\$17	\$17	\$68
Total Costs	\$132	\$135	\$138	\$141	\$545