# 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

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FROM: Glen Lee

Chief Financial Officer

DATE: September 23, 2022

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - Zero Waste Plastic Products Recycling

**Amendment Act of 2022** 

REFERENCE: Bill 24-668, Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue

Analysis on August 8, 2022

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2022 budget and fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

# **Background**

The bill requires every grocery store and large format retail store ("covered retail establishments") that offers disposal plastic bags to customers to also offer a receptacle¹ to collect disposable plastic bags, plastic film, and plastic shipping products. Covered retail establishments must recycle the materials they receive based on guidance they receive from the Department of Public Works (DPW) on where and how the materials should be recycled. DPW must provide this guidance by January 1, 2023 and receptacles must be in place by January 1, 2024.

The bill also makes permanent a temporary<sup>2</sup> allowance for DPW to provide composting training on the proper handling of organic materials to District residents through live or pre-recorded virtual methods.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  The receptacle can be located within the covered retail establishment or within 100 feet of its main entrance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Post-Public Health Emergency Protections Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2021, effective March 2, 2022 (D.C. Law 24-83; D.C. Official Code § 8-1031.12a(f)).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 24-668, "Zero Waste Plastic Products Recycling Amendment Act of 2022," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on August 8, 2022

## **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2022 budget and fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The bill requires DPW to make resources available on its website to covered retail establishments on where and how to recycle certain disposable plastic materials. DPW can absorb the costs of providing this information within its existing budgeted resources.

Covered retail establishments will be responsible for providing appropriate recycling receptacles and following DPW's guidance on where and how to recycle materials they collect.

The bill also provides DPW with the flexibility to continue offering virtual composting training. DPW began offering virtual trainings during the public health emergency and there are no costs associated with authorizing DPW to do this on a permanent basis.