


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



**Fitzroy Lee**  
Interim Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Fitzroy Lee  
Interim Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** July 16, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – Grandparent and Close Relative Caregivers  
Program Amendment Act of 2021

**REFERENCE:** Draft Introduction as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on  
June 30, 2021

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 budget and proposed fiscal year 2022 through 2025 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill amends eligibility requirements<sup>1</sup> for the Grandparent Caregivers Program and Close Relative Caregivers Pilot Program administered by the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA). Under the bill:

- Caregivers will no longer be disqualified from the programs if the child's adult parent, who has a medically verifiable disability, is residing with the caregiver;
- The requirement that a child must have resided with the caregiver for six months will be repealed; and
- The requirement that the caregiver must have been the child's primary caregiver for the prior six months will be repealed.

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<sup>1</sup> By amending Section 103 of the Grandparent Caregivers Pilot Program Establishment Act of 2005, effective March 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-69; D.C. Official Code § 4-251.03) and Section 103 of the Close Relative Caregiver Subsidy Pilot Program Establishment Act of 2019, effective November 26, 2019 (D.C. Law 23-32; D.C. Official Code § 4-251.23).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: "Grandparent and Close Relative Caregivers Program Amendment Act of 2021," Draft Introduction as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on June 30, 2021

The programs provide monthly financial assistance to low-income grandparents and close relatives taking care of and living with related children who meet eligibility requirements. The programs provide assistance on a first come, first served basis.

### **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 budget and proposed fiscal year 2022 through 2025 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. Changing the eligibility requirements for the Grandparent Caregivers Program and Close Relative Caregivers Pilot Program could increase applications to the program, but it is unclear by how much; however, program participation is constrained by the programs' annual budgets. There are currently 764 children enrolled in the Grandparent Caregivers Program and 30 in the Close Relative Caregivers Pilot Program, according to CFSA. CFSA estimates an additional 180 children could be served by the programs if the fiscal year 2022 budget request for the programs is approved. CFSA will not require additional staffing or administrative resources to implement the changes to program eligibility required by the bill.