

Muriel Bowser

Mayor

JUL 1 0 2015

The Honorable Phil Mendelson Chairman Council of the District of Columbia John A. Wilson Building 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 504 Washington, D.C. 20004

#### Dear Chairman Mendelson:

Enclosed for consideration and approval by the Council of the District of Columbia is proposed permanent legislation entitled "Active Duty Pay Differential Amendment Act of 2015 (the "Legislation")." The Legislation would amend subsection 1103(a)(7) of the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, to expand the current authorization for the payment of a pay differential to full-time permanent, indefinite, or term District government employees called to active military duty from reserve units of the United States forces.

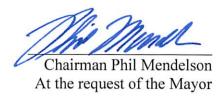
Currently, the authorization for the pay differential is limited to eligible District government employees called to active duty as a result of *Operation Enduring Freedom* and in preparation for or a result of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. However, subsequent to the enactment of the legislation that originally authorized the pay differential, District government employees have been called to active duty as a result of *Operation New Dawn*, *Operation Odyssey Dawn*, and other military contingency operations, without the benefit of the pay differential. Thus, this Legislation would expand the pay differential authorization so that it covers employees called to active duty as a result of any military operations that meet the definition of a "contingency operation," as defined in 10 U.S.C. 101(a)(13)(b).

As you know, District government employees continue to serve and be called into our nation's military components and, as a result, suffer emotional, as well as financial distress and hardship during the period of separation from their families and dependents. This Legislation will ensure assistance to the deployed District government reservists by easing financial hardship while they defend our country.

I urge you and the Council to take prompt and favorable action on the enclosed legislation. As always, I am available to discuss any questions that you may have on this matter.

Sincerely,

Muriel Bowser



4 A BILL 5 6 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 7 8 To amend the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 9 1978 to expand the pay differential authorization to relieve the financial burdens placed 10 upon certain District government employees who serve in the reserve units of the United 11 States Armed Forces and who are called or ordered to active duty in preparation for or as 12 a result of Operation New Dawn, Operation Odyssey Dawn, or any other contingency operation as defined in 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13)(B). 13 14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this 15 act may be cited as the "Active Duty Pay Differential Amendment Act of 2015". 16 Sec. 2. Section 1103(a)(7) of the Government of the District of Columbia 17 Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. 18 Official Code 1-611.03), is amended by adding a new paragraph (c) to read as follows: 19 "(C) In addition to the military operations listed in subparagraph (A) of this 20 paragraph, any full-time permanent, indefinite, or term employee who serves in a reserve 21 component of the United States Armed Forces and who is called or ordered to active duty under 22 a provision of law referred to in 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13)(B), shall be entitled, while serving on 23 such active duty, upon application and approval, the pay differential described in subparagraph 24 (A) of this paragraph. The pay differential amount shall not be considered as basic pay for any 25 purpose and shall be paid for any period during which the employee is carried in a non-pay status

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26 from the time the employee is called or ordered to active duty, until the employee is released 27 from active duty occasioned by any of these military operations.". 28 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement. 29 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement provided by the Chief Financial Officer as 30 the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule 31 Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)). 32 Sec. 4. Effective date. 33 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the 34 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as 35 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 36 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02 (c)(1)), and publication in the District of

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Columbia Register.

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



Jeffrey S. DeWitt Chief Financial Officer

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM:

Jeffrey S. DeWitt

Chief Financial Officer

DATE:

June 26, 2015

SUBJECT:

Fiscal Impact Statement - Active Duty Pay Differential Amendment Act

of 2015

REFERENCE:

Draft bill as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on June 15,

2015

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2015 budget and the proposed fiscal years 2016 through 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

#### **Background**

District government employees called to active duty for Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan received from the District of Columbia pay that made up the difference between their District salaries and military salaries. The bill will extend the same benefit to District employees who are called to active duty for any military contingency (wars, military actions, hostilities against enemy, etc.).1

#### **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2015 budget and the proposed fiscal years 2016 through 2019 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Since 2007, only 58 District government employees received pay for the active duty differential and the total payment has been approximately \$55,000. Agencies have been able to absorb this cost, and therefore should be able to do so in the future.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term "military contingency" is defined under 10 U.S. Code § 101.

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Legal Counsel Division

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Lolita S. Alston

Director

Office of Legislative Support

FROM:

Janet M. Robins

Deputy Attorney General Legal Counsel Division

DATE:

June 15, 2015

SUBJECT:

Legal Sufficiency Review of Bill, the "Active Duty Pay Differential

Amendment Act of 2015"

(AE-15-391)

This is to Certify that this Office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and has found it to be legally sufficient. If you have any questions regarding this certification, please do not hesitate to contact me at 724-5524.

Janet M. Robins

JMR/phg