



Chairman Phil Mendelson

**AMENDMENT #2**

Bill 26-265, "Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Support Act of 2025"

(Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute)

July 28, 2025

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**Amendment:**

**(a) In Title III, Subtitle H is amended to read as follows:**

"SUBTITLE H. ACCESS TO JUSTICE CLARIFICATION

"Sec. 3071. Short Title.

"This subtitle may be cited as the "Access to Justice Initiative Clarification Amendment Act of 2025".

"Sec. 3072. The Access to Justice Initiative Establishment Act of 2010, effective September 24, 2010 (D.C. Law 18-223; D.C. Official Code § 4-1701.01 et seq.), is amended as follows:

"(a) Section 101 (D.C. Official Code § 4-1701.01) is amended as follows:

"(1) Paragraph (5) is amended by striking the phrase "Grant Funding for Civil Legal Services" and inserting the phrase "Grant Program" in its place.

"(2) A new paragraph (6A) is added to read as follows:

"(6A) "CLCPP" means the Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program."

"(b) Section 201 (D.C. Official Code § 4-1702.01) is amended as follows:

"(1) Subsection (a) is amended as follows:

"(A) The existing language is designated as paragraph (1).

"(B) The newly designated paragraph (1) is amended as follows:

"(i) Strike the phrase "nonprofit organization partners; and providing loan-repayment assistance to lawyers working in eligible employment" and insert the phrase "nonprofit organization partners, including a shared legal interpreter bank; providing loan-repayment assistance to lawyers working in eligible employment; and providing legal services to eligible individuals or groups in covered proceedings as defined in section 3052(2) of the Expanding Access to Justice Amendment Act of 2017, effective December 13, 2017 (D.C. Law 22-33; D.C. Official Code § 4-1801(2))" in its place.

“(ii) Strike the phrase “. The Initiative shall consist of the ATJ and LRAP programs.” and insert a period in its place.

**“(C) A new paragraph (2) is added to read as follows:**

**“(2) The Initiative shall consist of the ATJ program, the LRAP, and the CLCPP.”.**

**“(2) A new subsection (a-1) is added to read as follows:**

**“(a-1)(1) The ATJ program shall provide support to nonprofit organizations that deliver civil legal services to low-income and under-served District residents, or support to their nonprofit organization partners, including a shared legal interpreter bank.**

**“(2) The ATJ program shall be part of and be funded through the Initiative, established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.”.**

“(c) Section 202(a) (D.C. Official Code § 4-1702.02(a)) is amended as follows:

“(1) Paragraph (1) is amended as follows:

“(A) Subparagraph (A) is amended as follows:

“(i) Sub-subparagraph (i) is amended by striking the phrase “the ATJ program” and inserting the phrase “the Initiative” in its place.

“(ii) Sub-subparagraph (ii) is amended by striking the phrase “the ATJ program” and inserting the phrase “the Initiative” in its place.

“(B) Subparagraph (B) is amended by striking the phrase “the ATJ program” and inserting the phrase “the Initiative” in its place.

“(2) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the phrase “the ATJ program” and inserting the phrase “the Initiative” in its place.

“(d) Section 301 (D.C. Official Code § 4-1703.01) is amended as follows:

“(1) The section heading is amended by striking the phrase “ATJ; funding” and inserting the phrase “ATJ Initiative; funding” in its place.

“(2) Subsection (a) is amended as follows:

“(A) Strike the phrase “each fiscal year from the budget of the Initiative to the Bar Foundation for the purpose of the Bar Foundation providing support to nonprofit organizations that deliver civil legal services to low-income and under-served District residents, or support to their nonprofit organization partners, including funds for a shared legal interpreter bank” and insert the phrase “each fiscal year to the Bar Foundation for the purpose of funding the Initiative, as defined in section 201(a)” in its place.

“(B) Strike the phrase “the budget for ATJ” and insert the phrase “the budget for the Initiative” in its place.

“(e) Section 401(b) (D.C. Official Code § 4-1704.01(b)) is amended as follows:

“(1) Paragraph (1) is repealed.

“(2) Paragraph (2) is repealed.

“Sec. 3073. Section 3053 of the Expanding Access to Justice Amendment Act of 2017, effective December 13, 2017 (D.C. Law 22-33; D.C. Official Code § 4-1802), is amended as follows:

“(a) Subsection (a) is amended by striking the phrase “Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program (“Program”)” and inserting the phrase “Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program (“~~CLPPP~~CLCPP”)” in its place.

“(b) Subsection (b) is amended as follows:

“(1) Paragraph (1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) CLCPP shall be part of and be funded through the Access to Justice Initiative, established pursuant to section 201 of the Access to Justice Initiative Establishment Act of 2010, effective September 24, 2010 (D.C. Law 18-223; D.C. Official Code § 4-1702.01).”.

“(2) Paragraph (3) is repealed.

“(c) Subsection (c) is amended as follows:

“(1) Paragraph (1) is amended by striking the phrase “entity for the Program; and” and inserting the phrase “entity for CLCPP; and” in its place.

“(2) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the phrase “requirements for the Program, including” and inserting the phrase “requirements for ~~CLPPP~~CLCPP, including” in its place.”.

**Rationale:** This amendment inserts language that was mistakenly omitted from the ANS; the addition is necessary to maintain the statutory purpose of the Access to Justice Initiative and reflect all its components. The amendment also corrects two typographical errors.