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Ministère des Finances
Canada

Sous-ministre



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Mr. Jean-Denis Fréchette
Parliamentary Budget Officer
Library of Parliament
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0A9

Dear Mr. Fréchette:

I am writing in response to your letter of September 19, 2013 in which you requested data and information on the cost estimate of Bill C-511: *An Act to Amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act (period of residence)*.

Bill C-511 proposes to amend the *Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act* (FPFAA) to adjust the national eligibility standard for social assistance to provide that no minimum period of residence may be required with respect to social assistance for Canadian citizens or permanent residents.

Provinces and territories are responsible for the design and delivery of their social assistance programs, including the establishment of rates and eligibility conditions. Therefore, an amendment to the FPFAA would be facilitative only. Should the Bill receive Royal Assent, it would be up to each province and territory to introduce a wait period should they so choose. Bill C-511 would have no costs for the federal government and therefore we have prepared no cost estimate.

I trust you will find this information useful.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Horgan

- c. Rick Stewart, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Privy Council Office, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy