



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 245

PRINTER'S NO: 0255

PRIME SPONSOR: Mundy

| FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY | FY 2008/09 | FY 2009/10 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Expenditure Increase/(Decrease): | | |
| Lottery Fund | \$0 | \$0 |

OVERVIEW:

House Bill 245 amends the Family Caregiver Support Act to expand eligibility for the Family Caregiver Support Program to non-family caregivers and to caregivers who do not live in the same resident as the care recipient. Currently, only relative caregivers are eligible to enroll in the program. The bill increases the monthly reimbursement limit to \$500 for expenses incurred by the caregiver in purchasing services and supplies. It also increases the lifetime limit to \$6,000 for expenses incurred for home modifications or assistive devices. Currently, the reimbursement caps are \$200 per month for services and supplies and \$2,000 a lifetime for home modifications.

This act would take effect in 60 days.

The Family Caregiver Support Program is funded through the Family Caregiver appropriation in the Department of Aging. Recent funding history for the program is as follows: \$11.75 million in 2006/07 and \$12.103 million in 2007/08 and 2008/09.

ANALYSIS:

The provisions in House Bill 245 that expand eligibility and increase reimbursement caps will not result in new costs for the Family Support Caregiver Program because the program is not an entitlement. Section 6 of the Family Caregiver Support Act stipulates that services shall only be made available to the extent of the availability and level of appropriations made by the General Assembly. Consequently, House Bill 245 has no impact on Commonwealth Funds.

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General Note and Disclaimer: *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*