



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2291

PRINTERS NO. 3769

PRIME SPONSOR: Miccarelli

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
Professional Licensure Augmentation Account	\$0	\$0
Political Subdivision Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the act of May 11, 1889 (P.L. 188, No. 210), to increase the fees paid for river pilot services on the Delaware River Bay beginning in 2018. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the supplementary act to the Board of Wardens for the Port of Philadelphia Act to increase the rates that river pilots charge for conducting vessels up and down the Delaware River and Bay between Cape May, New Jersey, and Cape Henlopen, Delaware, and to and from the Port of Philadelphia.

This legislation maintains the current rate for state-licensed pilots of \$14.05 per unit through 2017, increasing the rate to \$14.19 per unit in January 2018 and \$14.47 per unit in January 2019. This reflects a 1 percent increase in 2018 and a 2 percent increase in 2019.

Additionally, the legislation maintains the current minimum charge of 200 units, but increases the maximum unit charge, effective January 2017 from 1,400 units to 1,450 units; and to 1,500 units effective January 2018 and January 2019.

Finally, the legislation increases a ship's transport charge for vessels transiting the Delaware River by \$50 as follows:

- Philadelphia (or other place) to Marcus Hook, from \$750 to \$800
- Philadelphia (or other place) below Marcus Hook, from \$750 to \$800
- Philadelphia Harbor to Torresdale, from \$750 to \$800
- Philadelphia Harbor to any place above Torresdale, from \$1,000 to \$1,050

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth or political subdivision funds. The pilot fees, increased within this legislation, are paid by a shipping company to the Pilots' Association for the Bay and River Delaware which are necessary to maintain traffic control, for safety equipment, and to provide for pilots' salaries. The charges provide the funding necessary to maintain the shipping traffic safety system in the Delaware River and Bay.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: September 26, 2016

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.