



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 149

PRINTERS NO. 113

PRIME SPONSOR: Knowles

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

#### SUMMARY:

House Bill 149 amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) by establishing the unlawful use of an audio or video device in court.

#### ANALYSIS:

The Crimes Code is amended by adding a new Section 5103.1 (Unlawful use of an audio or video device in court), prohibiting the unauthorized use or operation of a device used to capture, record, transmit or broadcast a photograph, video, motion picture or audio of a court proceeding; including the environs. The "environs" means the area immediately surrounding any entrance or exit.

This legislation will be effective in 60 days.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation would have an unknown fiscal impact on Commonwealth or county funds. An individual who violates this new Section would commit a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by up to 2 years in prison and/or a fine up to \$5,000. Limited data makes it difficult to determine how many individuals may be arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced for this new offense.

**PREPARED BY:** Jenny P. Stratton  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** May 23, 2017

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