



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1451

PRINTER'S NO. 1635

PRIME SPONSOR: Hohenstein

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
Game Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: HB 1451 PN 1635 restricts the public from feeding or having direct physical contact with exotic wildlife without a separating barrier. This legislation would take effect in sixty (60) days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends Title 34 (Game) Section 2961 (Definitions), Section 2963 (Exotic wildlife possession permits), Section 2964 (Menagerie permits), and Section 2965 (Exclusions) to provide that menagerie and exotic wildlife permit holders may not allow the public to feed or have direct contact with exotic wildlife or wildlife, except ruminants.

Direct contact with wildlife includes physical contact or proximity where such physical contact is possible, without a physical barrier or a barrier with sufficient vertical height to prevent physical contact between the public and wildlife. Additionally, the term ruminant includes cattle, sheep, antelopes, deer, and does not include giraffes.

Lastly, the restrictions contained within the bill would not apply to a public zoological garden, private zoological park, or garden which is open to the public and accredited by the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, or a nationally recognized circus.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the enactment of this legislation would be handled utilizing existing staff level, and thus would not have a fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Gueorgui Tochev
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: October 31, 2023

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