



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1700

PRINTER'S NO. 2231

PRIME SPONSOR: Isaacson

COST / (SAVINGS)

| FUND | FY 2023/24 | FY 2024/25 |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund | See Fiscal Impact | See Fiscal Impact |

SUMMARY:

The legislation provides protections for Federal judges under state law.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1700 Printer's Number 2231 amends the definition of "Public safety official" in Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) Section 2719 (Endangerment of public safety official) to include Federal judicial officers. The bill defines "Federal judicial officers" to include the following:

1. An active, retired, or senior judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit who is a resident of the Commonwealth.
2. An active, retired, or senior judge of a Federal district court for the Eastern, Middle, or Western District of Pennsylvania.
3. An active, retired, or senior bankruptcy judge or tax court judge of the United States Bankruptcy Courts or United States Tax Courts for the Eastern, Middle, or Western District of Pennsylvania.
4. An active or senior judge or full-time magistrate of the District Courts of the United States for the Eastern, Middle, or Western District of Pennsylvania.

This legislation would take effect in 60 days upon enactment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact of including Federal judicial officers in the definition of public safety officials is indeterminate due to a lack of available data. An offense under this section would be graded as a misdemeanor of the first degree or a felony of the second degree if it results in bodily injury. A misdemeanor of the first degree is punishable by up to five years imprisonment and/or up to a \$10,000 fine. A felony of the second degree is punishable by up to ten years imprisonment and/or up to a \$25,000 fine. According to data from the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, in the past five years, no individuals were convicted of this offense. However, it is possible that by expanding the definition, more individuals would be convicted in the future. If this is the case, it should be noted that the marginal annual cost to incarcerate an additional inmate in a state correctional institution was \$15,213 in FY 2021/22. This cost assumes that fewer than 300 additional individuals were incarcerated.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: December 13, 2023

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