

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO.

Senate Bill 639

PRINTER'S NO.

694

AMOUNT

No cost to the Commonwealth

FUND

General

DATE INTRODUCED

March 19, 2009

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Dinniman

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to FINANCE, March 19, 2009

Reported as committed, June 17, 2009

First consideration, June 17, 2009

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, July 6, 2009

Re-reported as committed, September 9, 2009

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 639 amends section 204 of the Act of Mar. 4, 1971, P.L. 6, No. 2 (Tax Reform Code of 1971) to codify the sales and use tax-exempt status of volunteer firefighters' relief associations in the Tax Reform Code. In addition, the legislation amends section 237 to provide that an exemption certificate furnished to a volunteer firefighters' relief association or volunteer firemen's organization shall be considered permanent.

Under current law, any volunteer firefighters' relief association organized or conducted in accordance with the requirements of section 5(e) of the Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association Act shall be regarded as a charitable corporation for all purposes including the right to establish exemption from the operation of certain taxes. Current law provides that volunteer firemen's organizations and relief associations must renew their tax exemption every five years.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. Presently, Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Associations attain their tax-exempt status through the Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association Act. Senate Bill 639 clarifies their tax-exempt status in the Tax Reform Code, and, once attained, the status becomes permanent.