SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

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Senate Bill 1059

PRINTER'S NO.

1360

AMOUNT

No cost to the Commonwealth

DATE INTRODUCED

FUND

General Fund

PRIME SPONSOR

July 31, 2009

Senator Robbins

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to <u>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</u>, July 31, 2009 Reported as committed, <u>Feb. 2, 2010</u> First consideration, Feb. 2, 2010 Re-referred to <u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>, March 10, 2010 Re-reported as committed, <u>March 22, 2010</u>

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 1059 amends The First Class Township Code as part of a package of five bills clarifying that a township may create and abolish the office of a township manager, and that the board of commissioners may hire and replace, at its pleasure, the person holding that position.

More specifically, the amendments provide authorization for an employment agreement with a township manager. The amendments permit the employment agreement to generally set the terms and conditions of employment, and it may contain provisions that specify conditions under which a township manager would be entitled to severance compensation. Nevertheless, the scope of the agreement is limited; the term of such an agreement cannot bind future governing bodies because it may not extend beyond the date of the organization meeting of the governing body following the next municipal election after the effective date of the agreement.

Also, notwithstanding the potential for severance payments, an employment agreement with a township manager shall not be a guarantee of employment through the term of the agreement, and it shall not confer upon the township manager any legal remedy to continued employment based on specific performance.

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A summary provided by the Local Government Commission was used to prepare this fiscal note.

The Act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

It is presumed there would be no costs to the Commonwealth.