



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 907

PRINTER'S NO: 1026

PRIME SPONSOR: M. Smith

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	\$0	*See Analysis

OVERVIEW:

House Bill 907 amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedures) by adding an aggravating circumstance to the death penalty statute. The new aggravating circumstance occurs if the victim was over 60 years of age or if the victim was particularly vulnerable due to old age, infirmity, or disability.

This act takes effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

Costs related to House Bill 907 are not quantifiable at this time. Individuals convicted of first degree murder are likely to be incarcerated for a number of years. It costs approximately \$35,000 per year for an inmate to be housed in a state correctional institution. Costs in the out years may be significant if this new aggravating circumstance results in a sentence of life being changed to the death penalty where appeals can be costly to the Commonwealth.

While the fiscal impact of this legislation is unquantifiable at this time, if considered in conjunction with other legislation that increases the grading of penalties or creates new penalties, the impact to state and/or local governments may be substantial.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

DATE: June 9, 2010

General Note and Disclaimer: *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*