



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 1289

PRINTER'S NO: 1686

PRIME SPONSOR: Casorio

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2008/09	FY 2009/10
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Funds of First Class Townships	\$0	\$0

OVERVIEW:

This bill amends the First Class Township Code (Act No. 331 of 1931, as amended) to change a reason in §644 for disciplining or dismissing a police officer or employed firefighter and to add a new section restricting elective offices that may be held by a police officer.

The Code currently provides that a police officer or employed firefighter may be suspended, removed, or reduced in rank for “engaging or participating in conducting of any political or election campaign otherwise than to exercise his own right of suffrage.” This bill would allow the police officer or employed firefighter to engage or participate in such activities except while on duty or in uniform. The bill, however, restricts the police officer from holding an elective office in the township in which he is employed, or if the township is covered by a regional police department or other cooperative arrangement, then the police officer would be restricted from holding an elective office in any of the participating municipalities.

According to the Department of Community and Economic Development, there are 92 first class townships in Pennsylvania.

The effective date is sixty days.

ANALYSIS:

Allowing a police officer or employed firefighter to engage in or participate in political or election campaign activities, except for when on duty or in uniform, and allowing the officer to hold an elected office outside of the municipality or municipalities for which he is employed would be done on the officer’s own time and expense and would not fiscally impact the general funds of first class townships.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

DATE: May 4, 2009

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.*