



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 2571

PRINTER'S NO: 3892

PRIME SPONSOR: Eachus

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	\$0	\$95,000

OVERVIEW:

House Bill 2571 amends the Crime Victims Act to expand the role of the Office of Victim Advocate and the duties of the state victim advocate as it relates to victims of juvenile crime.

This bill clarifies that the role of the Office of Victim Advocate is to represent and advocate for the interests of crime victims, in addition to the current mandate to represent the interests of crime victims before the Board of Probation and Parole or the Department of Corrections.

The victim advocate's powers and duties not only include the current mandated responsibilities to represent interests of individual crime victims, but also to represent their interests before other government officials.

Finally, this legislation adds a sixth responsibility to the list of powers and duties of the victim advocate to provide for the victim advocate to represent and to advocate on behalf of the interests of crime victims generally, including the victims of juvenile crimes.

This act takes effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

According to the Office of Victim Advocate, the additional responsibilities and duties, including representation of victims of juvenile crime, will require an additional employee. The cost would be approximately \$88,000 for salary and benefits for a new employee and \$7,000 for operating costs. The enactment of House Bill 2571 would have a total fiscal impact of \$95,000 on the Commonwealth.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

DATE: June 29, 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.*