



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL: 174

PRINTER'S NO: 1950

PRIME SPONSOR: Tartaglione

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

OVERVIEW:

Senate Bill 174, Printer's Number 1950 amends the Workforce Development Act of 2001 to establish the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers to monitor and develop initiatives addressing the Commonwealth's health care workforce. The Center would be charged with developing strategies that increase the capacity of nursing education, retain health care workers, increase the diversity of health care workers, address the demand for allied health professionals that provide critical care and address the needs of direct care workers.

The bill would also establish the Health Careers Leadership Council which shall govern the Center. The council would consist of the Secretaries of Labor and Industry, State, Health and Public Welfare, or their designees, four members of the General Assembly as appointed by the Speaker of the House, the Minority Leader of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Senate, and appointees by the Governor made in consultation with the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board, including health care professionals, labor organization representatives, educators and statewide health care association representatives. The bill provides that the Council will not receive compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred.

The bill would provide a seat on the Workforce Investment Board for the chair or co-chair of the Health Careers Leadership Council.

The bill will take effect immediately, and shall expire on June 30, 2015.

ANALYSIS:

Governor Rendell established the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers within the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board of the Department of Labor and Industry in 2004 to address the need for health care workers. The center and its related activities cost approximately \$200,000 annually to operate, which has been provided through a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA). The Nursing Shortage Initiative appropriation to PHEAA was funded at \$1,000,000 in 2009-10, which includes the costs of the center. Therefore, the legislation would not incur any additional cost in the current year. The Governor's 2010-11 proposed budget continues funding the Nursing Shortage Initiative at the same level as the current year, which would be sufficient to cover the office in the next year as well.

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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.*