



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 235

PRINTERS NO. 3584

PRIME SPONSOR: Clymer

COST / (SAVINGS)

| FUND | FY 2011/12 | FY 2012/13 |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|
| General Fund | \$0 | See Fiscal Impact |

SUMMARY: Establishes civil penalties for certain entities which fail to post signs containing information about the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would establish the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline Notification Act. The bill would require designated “establishments” to post at least one sign, in various languages, “in a conspicuous manner clearly visible to the public and employees”. The sign shall be designed by the Department of Labor and Industry, which may consult with human trafficking victim advocates. The signs must include:

- the National Human Trafficking Resources Center Hotline number; and
- notice that victims of human trafficking are protected under federal and state law.

“Establishments” are defined to include:

- Massage parlors, spas or a similar enterprise;
- Restaurants, bars, taverns, hotels or clubs that have a valid liquor or malt or brewed beverage license;
- Adult entertainment enterprises;
- Hotels or motels found to be a drug-related nuisance or common nuisance;
- Airports, train stations and bus stations;
- Welcome centers and rest areas operated by PennDOT;

The bill will establish civil penalties of up to \$500 for violations to be assessed, after notice and hearing, by the Department of Labor and Industry. This notice shall be provided by the Department in the PA Bulletin as it deems practical. Civil penalties collected will be payable to the Department of Labor and Industry.

The legislation would also require the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to develop a plan for a coordinated response system, in consultation with other appropriate government agencies, including law enforcement, nongovernmental organizations and victim advocacy groups to provide victims of trafficking with certain services enumerated in the legislation. PCCD is only directed to do so to the extent Federal or State funds are available for this purpose.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the Department of Labor & Industry, monitoring these establishments and conducting hearings would have a fiscal impact that is indeterminable at this point. The department indicates that they don't enforce those types of establishments now, nor do they have a board that would fit these types of hearings. It is probable that any costs could be at least partially offset by civil penalties provided for in the legislation.

In the event that funds are available for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Commission indicates that the opportunity to create the response system would cost between \$10,000 and \$20,000. The Commission would hire contractors to convene and facilitate a planning process, develop a draft plan, and secure a final group sign-off on the final plan. These efforts typically require 6 hours of facilitation and another 6 hours for drafting and finalization. These expenses include consultation about scope of the meeting, meeting preparation, travel, accommodation, mileage, and subsistence.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 22, 2012

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.