



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1047

PRINTERS NO. 1134

PRIME SPONSOR: Staback

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2011/12	FY 2012/13
Municipal Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the "Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code" to permit alternate members for the planning commission. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would allow the governing body of a municipality to appoint at least one but no more than three residents of the municipality to serve as alternate members of the planning commission. The term of office of an alternate member shall be four years. When seated as a voting alternate member as provided herein, an alternate shall be entitled to participate in all proceedings and discussions of the commission to the same and full extent as provided by law for commission members, including specifically the right to cast a vote during the proceedings. Alternates shall not serve as a member of the zoning hearing board or as a zoning officer of the municipality. At any time alternates may participate in any proceeding or discussion of the planning commission, but shall not be entitled to vote nor be reimbursed, unless designated as a voting alternate member.

The chairman of the planning commission may designate alternate members of the commission to substitute for any absent member or member who has recused himself or has been disqualified by the governing body. If, by reason of absence, recusal or disqualification of a member, a quorum is not reached, the chairman of the commission shall designate as many alternate members of the commission to sit on the commission as may be needed to reach a quorum. Any alternate member of the commission shall continue to serve on the commission in all proceedings involving the matter or case for which the alternate was initially appointed until the commission has made a final decision on the matter or case. Designation of an alternate shall be made on a case-by-case basis in rotation according to declining seniority among all alternates.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth or municipal funds. The legislation would simply enable municipalities to appoint alternate members to the planning commission.

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Under Section 202 of the Code, members of the commission may receive compensation in an amount fixed by the governing body. Members of the planning commission may be reimbursed for necessary and reasonable expenses. It is indeterminable as to how many municipalities compensate commission members currently as well as the number that would do so if this legislation was enacted.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 3, 2012

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