



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1405

PRINTERS NO. 1679

PRIME SPONSOR: Grell

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2011/12	FY 2012/13
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 1405 amends the Mental Health Procedures Act concerning incompetency examinations in criminal cases.

ANALYSIS: Under current law, the Mental Health Procedures Act requires the court to appoint a psychiatrist to perform a court-ordered incompetency examination, and only a psychiatrist retained by the defense can observe and participate in the examination. In addition, the court can only appoint a psychiatrist for an indigent defendant who objects to the conclusions of the court's appointed psychiatrist. This legislation would permit a licensed psychologist to serve in these capacities that are now limited to psychiatrists.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 12, 2012

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