



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1907

PRINTERS NO. 2921

PRIME SPONSOR: Grell

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY: House Bill 1907 amends the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act concerning medical professional liability cases.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would add to the Mcare Act a limit on the amount of punitive damages that could be awarded in medical professional liability cases against certain health care entities. The limit would be no more than 200% of the compensatory damages awarded in the case. The entities affected are personal care homes, assisted living communities, and long-term care nursing facilities. This limitation would not apply in cases alleging intentional misconduct, or when the facility engaged in an unlawful practice.

In addition, punitive damages, if awarded, shall not be less than \$100,000 unless a lower verdict amount is returned by the judge or jury.

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

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: December 20, 2011

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