



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2016

PRINTERS NO. 2832

PRIME SPONSOR: Ellis

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY: House Bill 2016 amends Chapter 30 of the Crimes Code concerning trafficking of persons. It also amends the Judicial Code concerning coercion into prostitution. It would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation adds a definition of commercial sex to the Crimes Code chapter on trafficking of persons and clarifies that the prohibition against trafficking of persons includes trafficking persons for commercial sex.

House Bill 2016 also defines the offense of selling or buying of minors into commercial sex, which applies specifically to the parents or guardians of the minors, and is a felony of the first degree.

This bill also adds a new section to the Judicial Code establishing a civil cause of action for damages, including reasonable attorneys fees, against a person who coerced the plaintiff into or to remain in prostitution, or to collect or receive any part of the plaintiff's earnings from prostitution.

FISCAL IMPACT: The enactment of this legislation is anticipated to have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. According to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, there have only been two convictions under the Crimes Code for human trafficking since the section took effect in 2007. Therefore, these changes to the section are not expected to increase sentences or convictions to an extent that would impact state or local corrections or probation and parole budgets.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 9, 2012

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