



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 326

PRINTERS NO. 1387

PRIME SPONSOR: Corman

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Vital Statistics Law of 1953 providing for a Certificate of Birth resulting in Stillbirth. Effective date is in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would add a new section to the Vital Statistics Law which would require, upon the request of a parent, the Department of Health to issue a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth for any fetal death previously filed with the department. Only the mother would be permitted to request the certificate if the father is not identified on the fetal death record or the child was conceived during a criminal act. The certificate would include the following: the name of the stillborn child, the date of delivery, the county of delivery, the names and birthplaces of the mother and father and a statement "This certificate is not proof of live birth." The fee for issuance of a certificate would be the same as the fee for issuance of a death certificate (\$9 per copy) by the department. This legislation also provides that the certificate shall not affect the registration, filing or record requirements of the Vital Statistics Law or that the issuance of the certificate impose any additional duties upon a coroner or medical examiner to conduct an investigation.

FISCAL IMPACT: Currently, the department will issue a fetal death certificate for situations where a woman gives birth to a stillborn infant. A birth certificate is not issued; a Certificate of Stillbirth can be obtained by a parent. This legislation provides a mechanism for parents to obtain an birth record as well as the fetal death record.

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. It is anticipated that the authorization for the department to charge a fee for this certificate will offset any departmental costs associated with issuance.

House Bill 958 which contains the same provisions passed the House on June 13, 2011 with a vote of 201-0.

PREPARED BY: Kathy Vranicar
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 22, 2011

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