



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 316

PRINTERS NO. 3198

PRIME SPONSOR: Harhart

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2013/14	FY 2014/15
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 316, Printer's Number 3198, amends the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L. 177, No. 175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, as amended, to provide for children's advocacy centers, training of mandated child abuse reporters and multidisciplinary investigative teams and also establishes the Child Advocacy Center Advisory Committee. This legislation is effective July 1, 2014.

ANALYSIS: This bill amends section 609-A (6) of The Administrative Code to provide for a \$10 increase in the current \$10 fee charged by the Department of Health for a certified copy of a birth record to \$20. For fiscal year 2014-15, 50% of the \$20 fee for a certified copy of a birth record will be transferred to the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) to fund training for mandated child abuse reporters and child abuse related costs. For fiscal year 2015-16 and subsequent years, 50% of the fee shall be distributed as follows: 25% transferred to DPW for training of mandated reporters and child abuse related costs; and 75% transferred to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for grants to child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams. Grants shall be provided to qualified applicants on a regional basis for the operation of 21 existing children's advocacy centers and for the establishment of new centers. In the first three years after the effective date of the article, PCCD shall endeavor to provide 30% of the funds collected to qualified applicants working to establish children's advocacy centers in regions not yet served by such centers. No more than 20% of funds collected annually shall be provided to any single qualified applicant.

This legislation also establishes the Child Advocacy Center Advisory Committee in PCCD, consisting of no more than 21 members appointed by the Chairman of PCCD, including representatives from various agencies and advocacy groups as outlined in the bill. The purposes of the committee are: to advise PCCD on the approval of grants to children's advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams; to advise on the definition, development and correlation of programs and the establishment of priorities for child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams; and upon request provide assistance and advice on any other matters relating to child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams.

FISCAL IMPACT: Increasing the fee for a certified copy of a birth record from \$10 to \$20 will result in additional annual revenue of \$3.813 million based upon a 5-year average of birth certificates issued by the Department of Health. In FY 2014-15, this additional funding will be directed to the Department of Public Welfare for training of mandated reporters and related child abuse costs. In FY 2015-16 and subsequent years, an estimated \$2.860 million will be directed to PCCD to provide funding for child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams and \$0.953 million will be directed to DPW for training of mandated reporters and related child abuse costs.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 28, 2014

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