



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 429

PRINTERS NO. 1241

PRIME SPONSOR: Watson

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2012/13	FY 2013/14
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 429, Printer's Number 1241, amends Title 23, Chapter 63 to provide employment protections to permitted reporters of child abuse. The effective date is 60 days from enactment.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Child Protective Services Law to allow any person who suspects child abuse to make a report of suspected child abuse. Additionally, the bill extends employment discrimination protections to cover permitted reporters - any person who makes a good faith report of child abuse. Specifically, the permitted reporter is allowed to commence a civil action in the county court of common pleas if they are unlawfully terminated or discriminated against with respect to compensation, hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment as a result of the report. If the court finds in favor of the permitted reporter, appropriate relief, including but not limited to, reinstatement with back pay may be ordered.

The Department of Public Welfare is authorized to intervene in any action commenced under the provisions of the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation is not expected to adversely impact Commonwealth funds. The Department of Public Welfare may incur some administrative expenses to perform these additional duties, which will be covered under existing operations.

PREPARED BY: Janelle Lynch
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 9, 2013

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