



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 974

PRINTERS NO. 3276

PRIME SPONSOR: R. Brown

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY: House Bill 974 amends the Public School Code concerning automatic external defibrillators (AEDs). It would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation requires the Department of Education (PDE) to establish an AED program to assist public and non-public school entities in making AEDs available in school buildings. On a biennial basis, the PDE, in consultation with the Department of General Services and the Department of Health will issue an invitation to bid for the cost of AEDs and other equipment and supplies necessary for the proper operation of the devices. The PDE will accept the bid of the lowest responsible bidder and permit any school to purchase the devices at the contract bid price. To the extent that the General Assembly makes funds available for this purpose, PDE may purchase AEDs for schools, or make them available at a discount from the contract bid price.

The legislation makes the purchase of AEDs an allowable use of Pennsylvania Accountability Block Grant funds and would allow such purchases to be considered an innovative educational program under the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.

Reporting requirements are included for all school entities participating in the AED program, and the PDE must also annually post a report on its website listing program details as enumerated in the legislation.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. Requirements imposed on the Departments of Education, Health, and General Services can be funded within these agencies' existing budgets. The PDE program to purchase AEDs for schools, or make them available at a discount from the contract bid price will only occur if the General Assembly makes funds available for this purpose.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 7, 2014

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