



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

# FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1642

PRINTERS NO. 3196

PRIME SPONSOR: Quinn

### COST / (SAVINGS)

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

**SUMMARY:** House Bill 1642, Printer's Number 3196, the Patient Test Result Information Act, requires entities performing outpatient diagnostic imaging services to directly notify the patient or the patient's designee that the entity has completed a review of the test and sent results to the health care practitioner who ordered the diagnostic imaging service when there is a finding of a significant abnormality. This legislation is effective in 60 days.

**ANALYSIS:** This legislation requires a diagnostic imaging entity to include the following information in the notification: name of the ordering health care practitioner; date the test was performed; date the results were sent to the ordering practitioner; summary of the report, otherwise known as the impression or conclusion, or the complete results provided to the ordering practitioner; standard statements on why the information is being provided; and any other information deemed necessary to help the patient or their designee understand the summary report. The notification is to be provided in a manner acceptable to the patient and must be sent no sooner than seven days and no later than 20 days after the test results have been sent to the ordering health care practitioner.

The following are exempted from notification: routine obstetrical ultrasounds to monitor development of a fetus; diagnostic imaging services performed on a patient being treated on an inpatient basis; and diagnostic radiographs.

The Department of Health must conduct compliance reviews as part of the inspection performed by the department or accrediting organization and investigate complaints relating to notification of test results.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The Department of Health does not currently inspect diagnostic imaging entities, but there is a health and safety review if located in a hospital as part of the hospital inspection. If a diagnostic imaging entity is also a laboratory, the facility may have a Clinical Laboratory License. The department will now need to visit all entities to ensure compliance with this act and investigate complaints. The department is currently unable to determine the

potential universe of facilities that are not visited by department personnel or an accrediting organization through either a hospital or clinical laboratory inspection. However, this legislation includes language that the duties imposed by this act on the department and diagnostic imaging entities shall not commence until sufficient funding has been made available to the department and a notice to that effect has been published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

**PREPARED BY:** Ann Bertolino  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** March 19, 2014

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