



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2278

PRINTERS NO. 3838

PRIME SPONSOR: Pickett

### COST / (REVENUE)

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

**SUMMARY:** House Bill 2278, Printer's Number 3838, establishes the Unconventional Well Report Act.

**ANALYSIS:** This establishes the Unconventional Well Report Act and related definitions. Unconventional well operators are to report production data to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on a monthly basis specifying the amount of production on the most well-specific basis available.

The initial report shall be filed by March 31, 2015 and specify the status of each well. In subsequent reports, only changes in status must be reported. Subsequent monthly reports shall be filed with the department within 45 days after the close of the reporting period and shall include production data from the preceding reporting period.

The department shall make all reports available on its publicly accessible Internet website, while any costs incurred by the department to comply with the requirements of this section shall be paid out of well permitting fees currently collected. The bill also repeals Title 58 Section 3222(a.1), relating to unconventional well reporting requirements, which currently requires biannual reporting.

The legislation shall take effect in two parts upon enactment: the repeal provision is effective March 31, 2015 and the remainder of the act is effective immediately.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Enactment of this bill will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. It is expected that DEP's administrative costs would be covered under existing operations of its Oil and Gas Program and current permitting fee revenues as deposited into the Well Plugging Fund.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** June 26, 2014

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