



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 33

PRINTERS NO. 1644

PRIME SPONSOR: Mensch

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 33, Printer's Number 1644, amends Title 23 (Domestic Violence) to extend "whistleblower" protection to all persons who make reports of suspected child abuse, not just mandated reporters. This legislation is effective December 31, 2014.

ANALYSIS: This legislation adds Section 6320, protection from employment discrimination, which allows a person to file a civil action for appropriate relief in the county court of common pleas if all of the following apply: the person is a mandated reporter or encouraged to report suspected child abuse; the person acted in good faith in making or causing the report to be made; and as a result of the report, the person is discharged from employment or discriminated against with respect to compensation, hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment. The civil action must be filed in the court of common pleas in the county in which the alleged discharge or discrimination occurred. The court may grant relief, including reinstatement of the plaintiff with back pay. In addition, the Department of Public Welfare may intervene in the commenced civil action.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 31, 2014

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