



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 66

PRINTERS NO. 845

PRIME SPONSOR: Godshall

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2014/15	FY 2015/16
Municipal Authority Funds	\$0	\$0
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SUMMARY: Requires a municipal authority to publicly discuss all acquisitions and the sale or transfer of authority-owned water and sewer infrastructure and how the acquisition or sale will benefit the authority's existing ratepayers. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation prohibits an authority from making an acquisition until it discusses the acquisition at a public meeting. It also adds a new subsection to the Municipal Authorities Act to prohibit an authority from selling or transferring any authority-owned water or sewer infrastructure until the sale is discussed at a public meeting. In both cases, the minutes of the meeting must include detailed information relating to the projected public benefit that will be realized as a result of the acquisition or sale. A "public benefit" may be a rate reduction, improved service quality or reliability or any other clearly defined benefit flowing to existing ratepayers..

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth, municipal or municipal authority funds. It is presumed that any discussion of a municipal authority acquisition, sale or transfer would typically occur at a regularly scheduled meeting and would not require the sunshining of an additional public meeting.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 26, 2015

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