



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 139

PRINTERS NO. 123

PRIME SPONSOR: Zimmerman

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2014/15	FY 2015/16
General Fund	\$0	\$0

**SUMMARY:** House Bill 139 amends the Private Academic Schools Act concerning online schools. It would take effect in 60 days.

**ANALYSIS:** House Bill 139 adds online schools to the types of schools licensed, regulated, and inspected by the State Board of Private Academic Schools. An online school is defined as a school with at least one office located in this Commonwealth which uses technology to provide a significant portion of its curriculum and to deliver a significant portion of instruction to its students through the Internet or other electronic means. It does not include a public cyber charter school.

The Board must promulgate rules and regulations and establish policies, principles and standards related to online schools which address the unique provision of instruction and services to students by online schools, and provide for any additional requirements or exemptions as may be required to accommodate the ability of online schools to provide instruction and student services. These rules must take effect within 18 months of the effective date of this legislation. The board may not issue a license to an online school until these rules are in effect.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** It is not anticipated that enactment of this legislation will increase the State Board of Private Academic School's workload beyond what could be handled by Department of Education staff currently assigned to the Board. Therefore, it should have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

**PREPARED BY:** Jeff Miller  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** February 4, 2015

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