



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 944

PRINTERS NO. 2846

PRIME SPONSOR: Taylor

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17
City of Philadelphia Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Community and Economic Improvement Act (Act 174 of 1998) to improve the management of neighborhood improvement districts in Philadelphia. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Community and Economic Improvement Act to:

- Add a definition for the term, “affected property owner,” to clarify to whom notice of hearings must be given, and who has standing to object to the proposed neighborhood improvement district (NID).
- Clarify that a second public hearing on the NID is only required when there are revisions to the preliminary plan that are not technical.
- Change the percentage of objections required to defeat the district, from 51% to 1/3, to be consistent with the Municipality Authorities Act (MAA).
- Require submission of a proposed budget for each year of the operation of the NID, rather than a budget for only one fiscal year.
- Provide that the Neighborhood Improvement District Management Association (NIDMA) can amend the district plan after the establishment of the district, provided written notification is given by the NIDMA to affected property owners and, within 45 days of the notification, the amendment is not defeated by objections from 1/3 of affected property owners, in terms of ownership or property valuation.
 - If the proposed amendments substantially change or add programs or increase the budget for any year in which the budget has been approved, the approval of the governing body is also required. For the latter, 10 days public notice of the hearing shall be provided in addition to the personal notice made by the NIDMA.
- Change the maximum number of board members from 9 to 15 for a nonprofit corporation established to serve as the NIDMA.
- Remove the requirement that January 1 must be the first day of the NID’s fiscal year.

- Require that the financial audit and report be submitted to any municipal department designated by the NID ordinance.
- Provide those seeking to establish or continue a business improvement district with a choice to proceed under the Community and Economic Improvement Act (CEIA) or under the MAA.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth or City of Philadelphia funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 17, 2016

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