



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1339

PRINTERS NO. 3645

PRIME SPONSOR: Pyle

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17
General Fund	See "Fiscal Impact" below.	

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 1339 adds a section to the Crimes Code concerning unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft. It would take effect in 90 days.

### ANALYSIS:

This legislation adds the offense of "unlawful use of unmanned aircraft" to the Crimes Code. A person commits this offense by intentionally or knowingly using an unmanned aircraft to conduct surveillance of another person in a private place. A private place is considered a place where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy. Exceptions are made for law enforcement officers, firefighters, fire police, corrections officers, and emergency medical responders engaged in their official duties, employees of a utility engaged in the performance of their official duties, persons engaged in aerial data collection in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration regulations, and employees of government agencies engaged in their official duties.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Reliable data do not exist to determine how many people may be arrested and convicted of this new offense if the legislation is enacted. A single offense would be a summary violation, punishable by a fine of up to \$300 and/or up to 90 days in jail. Multiple violations would be a third degree misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and/or up to one year in jail. These costs would be likely to occur at the county level, unless the individual is convicted of multiple crimes. Therefore, enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

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

**DATE:** June 28, 2016

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