



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1872

PRINTERS NO. 2893

PRIME SPONSOR: Metcalfe

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends Title 37 (Historical and Museums) to modernize the History Code.

ANALYSIS: HB 1872 amends Title 37 (Historical and Museums) to modernize the History Code with regard to the administration of the State Archives, archival records and other matters, as follows:

- Removes provisions requiring the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to make an annual report on the Conservation Center, which no longer operates;
- Provides for the sale or disposal of abandoned property on loan to PHMC;
- Specifically authorizes PHMC to administer the State Archives and for the State Archives to be the official repository for permanent and historically valuable public records of the Commonwealth;
- Adds definitions for record, archival record, public record, State Archives and State Archivist;
- Authorizes PHMC to maintain and preserve state and local government records;
- Prohibits the sale or transfer of Commonwealth archival records unless authorized by law and establishes a civil penalty of not more than \$2,500 for violating this provision;
- Sets procedures by which PHMC may retrieve Commonwealth and local archival records held by unauthorized persons or organizations;
- Allows access to archival records 75 years or older, unless specifically prohibited by law;
- Removes the following properties which have been transferred or sold to other entities; Cashiers House, Fort Augusta, John Brown House, Old Brown's Mill School, Old Customs House, Pottsgrove Mansion, and Sodom School House.

Effective date: 60 days

FISCAL IMPACT: According to PHMC, the enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Thomas Gwinn
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: July 1, 2016

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