



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 307

PRINTERS NO. 2015

PRIME SPONSOR: Yudichak

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Race Horse Development Fund	\$0	\$5,000,000

**SUMMARY:** Senate Bill 307, Printer's Number 2015, establishes legal counsel for the Environmental Quality Board; and provides a permanent transfer from the Race Horse Development Fund for agricultural affairs.

**ANALYSIS:** This bill amends the Administrative Code of 1929 to direct the Department of Environmental Protection to appoint independent legal counsel to the Environmental Quality Board. The independent counsel shall be compensated from the appropriation for the general government operations of the department and assist board members with any matter before it. The bill further provides that all communication between the independent counsel and a board member shall be considered subject to the attorney-client privilege consistent with the Rules of Professional Conduct.

The bill also provides for a permanent transfer of \$5 million from the Race Horse Development Fund to distribute to agricultural fairs. This annual transfer begins July 1, 2017.

This legislation would take effect immediately upon enactment.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** It is expected any additional administrative costs would be covered under the department's existing operations. The department reports it would cost approximately \$36,000 annually to hire counsel from a private law firm to review potential rulemakings and provide legal advice to members and the board.

The bill also provides for the annual transfer of \$5 million from the Race Horse Development Fund (RHDF) for agricultural fairs beginning July 1, 2017, by increasing the current authorized transfer of \$4 million in FY 2016-17 to \$5 million beginning in FY 2017-18.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** July 10, 2016

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