



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 748

PRINTERS NO. 1313

PRIME SPONSOR: Argall

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Motor License Fund	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends Title 75 (Vehicle Code) to eliminate the mandatory escort of super-sized loads by the PA State Police (PSP). This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends several sections of the Vehicle Code, effectively creating a “certified escort vehicle” that is authorized by PennDOT to escort super loads in PA in lieu of the PSP.

A “certified escort vehicle” is defined as a vehicle that is operated to escort a super load on a highway of this Commonwealth. The vehicle shall display PennDOT’s certification emblem, may use flashing or revolving yellow lights, and shall comply with other PennDOT regulations, including those pertaining to pilot cars.

A “super load” is defined as a vehicle or combination or load having a gross weight exceeding 201,000 pounds, a total length exceeding 160 feet or a total width exceeding 16 feet. The term does not include a building, a vehicle or combination moved across the highway under Sections 4965 (relating to single permits for multiple highway crossings) or 4966 (relating to permit for movement of quarry equipment), or a dragline moved across a highway under permit.

The driver of the certified escort vehicle must be certified and licensed by PennDOT and wear attire that complies with 67 PA Code §101.3(5) (relating to minimum attire). PennDOT has up to 1 year from the effective date to establish criteria for certified escort vehicles and for determining certification and licensing of drivers of certified escort vehicles within PA, and shall post the criteria on the PennDOT website.

The legislation gives PennDOT, in consultation with the PSP, the ability to determine whether a PSP escort is necessary. If it is jointly determined by PennDOT and PSP that the movement must be escorted by PSP, the permittee shall bear the total costs of the escort.

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

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: October 20, 2015

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