



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 211

PRINTERS NO. 1269

PRIME SPONSOR: Bloom

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 211, Printer's Number 1269, establishes the Statewide 2-1-1 System Grant Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS). This legislation is effective in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation establishes the Statewide 2-1-1 System Grant Program in DHS to facilitate dissemination of information on health and human service programs provided by government and private and nonprofit organizations in local communities. The program shall provide a grant to a qualified applicant to develop, implement, operate and support a Statewide 2-1-1 system from funds appropriated or made available to DHS for this purpose.

DHS shall develop and implement a procedure to award a grant to a qualified applicant for a Statewide 2-1-1- system. The grant shall be used for the following purposes:

- To provide Statewide 2-1-1 system services 24 hours each day throughout this Commonwealth, including to regions of this Commonwealth that do not have access to a provider of 2-1-1 system services.
- To expand access to 2-1-1 system services and the database to a 2-1-1 system through text-to-chat, mobile application and a publicly accessible Internet website.
- To permit the disbursement of funds, with the approval of DHS, to regional providers of 2-1-1 system services for satisfying 2-1-1 quality assurance standards used by similar programs in other states.
- For any other purpose deemed appropriate by DHS for carrying out the provisions of this act.

FISCAL IMPACT: There are no mandated costs associated with passage of this legislation. Currently, Pennsylvania's 2-1-1 system is operated by six regional independent centers and covers 85% of the Commonwealth. The system is funded by a combination of United Way support, grants and private contributions, and contracts. There likely would be additional costs to expand statewide, link existing databases and allow for updating of available services.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 5, 2017

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