



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 223

PRINTERS NO. 192

PRIME SPONSOR: Sonney

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
Professional Licensure Augmentation Account	\$0	See "Fiscal Impact"

**SUMMARY:** Establishes a continuing education requirement for architects. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

**ANALYSIS:** This legislation amends the Architects Licensure Law (Act 281 of 1982) to require licensed architects to complete 24 hours of continuing education (CE) every 2 years in order to renew their license. A minimum of 12 of these 24 hours must be in the areas of health, safety and welfare credits. A licensee whose primary practice is in another state shall be deemed to have satisfied this CE requirement if the licensee has completed the CE requirement in the state of primary practice.

The State Architects Licensure Board (Board) shall establish, enforce and promulgate rules and regulations to implement the CE requirement.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** According to the Department of State, this legislation would cost the Board approximately \$316,000 annually. Costs would be approximately \$300,000 for personnel and \$16,000 for operating to monitor CE for the 8,255 licensed architects in Pennsylvania. The legislation would require 1 new education certification evaluator and the use of 1.75 full-time equivalent positions that also cover other areas within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. It is possible that these costs could be absorbed within current available funds over the first couple of years. In the event that the Board could not absorb these costs, they would have the ability, through regulation, to increase biennial renewal fees to offset those expenses.

**PREPARED BY:** Tim Rodrigo  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** April 3, 2017

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