



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1843

PRINTERS NO. 3476

PRIME SPONSOR: Grove

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19
General Fund	\$0	See fiscal impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 1843, printer's number 3476, amends Title 72 (Taxation and Fiscal Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to provide for budget and financial transparency.

The effective date is 90 days after enactment.

ANALYSIS: The bill adds new chapters to Title 72 to provide increased public access to Commonwealth financial and budget information. The first new chapter added by the legislation requires agencies submitting documentation used by the Office of the Budget for preparation of the Governor's budget submission to place the original, unedited documents on the agency's publicly accessible internet website no later than the first Monday of November 2018, and every year thereafter. Electronic notice shall be provided to members of the General Assembly that the documents are available.

A second chapter is added to provide specified financial information on the Treasury Department's Transparency Portal. The Treasury Department shall provide revenue and expenditure information for all Commonwealth executive branch agencies, legislative agencies, judicial agencies, independent agencies, and state-affiliated agencies on its Transparency Portal. The Treasury Department shall update the data on the portal daily to accurately reflect the revenue and expenditure information as of the close of business the prior day. Revenue and expenditure information shall also be made available for Commonwealth special or restricted accounts. Reports from the Treasury Transparency Portal shall be made available to the public to download as an image and a spreadsheet document. The Treasury Transparency Portal shall also include information on the top 20 highest expenditures as designated by appropriation within the General Fund, as well as the 10 Commonwealth agencies with the highest dollar amount of General Fund expenditures. All agencies noted previously are required to provide the Treasury Department with data collected under the PENNWatch Act so the State Treasurer can operate the Treasury Transparency Portal.

The Treasury Transparency Portal shall also include information from the State Treasurer on the Commonwealth's investments. The daily balances of each fund within the investment pools

managed by the Treasury Department shall be made available, and the State Treasurer shall ensure the information is updated to reflect changes in investment pools and account balances from the close of business the previous day.

The legislation also requires the Office of the Budget to provide access to the General Assembly, the Independent Fiscal Office, the Department of the Auditor General and the general public to the Integrated Central System under Section 620.1 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L. 177, No. 175), known as the Administrative Code. Access shall be made available with inquiry-only screens on the Office of the Budget's publicly accessible internet website. The Office of the Budget shall pay any expenses related to the implementation of this requirement with unencumbered funds. The Commonwealth's current financial database is an SAP-based integrated enterprise system.

FISCAL IMPACT: The enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on the Treasury Department's budget as the department already has the majority of the required information on the State Treasury Transparency Portal. To the extent the Office of the Budget incurs costs to make changes to its internet website and expends unencumbered funds, the amount of unencumbered funds that may ultimately lapse back to the General Fund could be reduced.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 2, 2018

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