



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1869

PRINTERS NO. 2592

PRIME SPONSOR: Mackenzie

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY: House Bill 1869, Printer's Number 2592, the Maternal Mortality Review Act, establishes a committee to review maternal deaths in the Commonwealth and to develop strategies for the prevention of maternal deaths. This legislation is effective in 90 days.

ANALYSIS: HB 1869 establishes the Maternal Mortality Review Committee within the Department of Health (DOH). The Committee will be comprised of at least 15 members selected by the Secretary of Health who are local and state experts in maternal, infant and public health. DOH is required to provide staff necessary to administer and manage this act. The committee is required to meet at least once annually, with the initial meeting to be held within 90 days of the bill's effective date.

Duties of the Committee include:

- Reviewing maternal death cases identified by DOH from sources, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Pregnancy check boxes on a decedent's death certificate;
 - Vital statistics linkage of birth, fetal death and induced termination of pregnancy records with death records;
 - Direct referrals from health care facilities and health care providers;
 - Medical examiners and coroners.
- Summarizing causes of death and findings and reporting recommendations regarding the prevention of maternal deaths.
- Disseminating aggregated, non-individually identifiable findings and recommendations at least every three years to the DOH Secretary, the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, the House Health Committee, health care providers, health care facilities and the general public.

Licensed health care providers and health care facilities must provide reasonable access to the Committee for the purpose of reviewing medical records associated with maternal death cases under review by the Committee, so long as such actions are consistent with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

The Committee shall maintain the confidentiality of any identifying information obtained relating to a maternal death. Committee members and any person appearing before the Committee are required to sign a confidentiality agreement applicable to all proceedings and reviews conducted by the Committee.

The proceedings, deliberations and records of the Committee are privileged and confidential and shall not be subject to discovery, subpoena or introduction into evidence in a civil or criminal action. Information collected under this act shall be exempt from the Right-to-Know Law.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact related to passage of this legislation. According to the Department of Health, any administrative costs can be absorbed within existing funding.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: December 11, 2017

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