



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 741

PRINTERS NO. 1243

PRIME SPONSOR: Greenleaf

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19
Access to Justice Account	See Fiscal Impact	
Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account	See Fiscal Impact	

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 741, Printer's Number 1243 amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) by increasing certain judicial fees.

ANALYSIS:

SB 741, PN 1243 amends the Judicial Code to provide for a \$2 increase in all court filing fees in the Commonwealth (\$10 to \$12). The legislation specifies that the increased dollar amount will be deposited into the Access to Justice Account. The legislation removes Section 4907 (Expiration of chapter), removing the sunset provision, known as the Access to Justice Act.

The legislation was amended to further provide that beginning July 1, 2018, all fines, fees or costs which are allocated by law or by the Department of Agriculture pursuant to the Dog Law (P.L. 781, No. 2250) will no longer be deposited into the Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account.

This legislation will be effective immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation would increase court filing fees, resulting in an increase of approximately \$7 million annually to be deposited into the Access to Justice Account. In addition, according to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) in Fiscal Year 2016-2017, approximately \$200,000 was deposited into the Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account from Dog Law fines, fees or costs.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: October 17, 2017

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