



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 223

PRINTERS NO. 1975

PRIME SPONSOR: Pickett

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	See fiscal impact	See fiscal impact

SUMMARY:

Authorizes the conveyance of land in Asylum Township, Bradford County.

ANALYSIS:

HB 223 authorizes the Department of General Services and the PA Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to convey approximately 22.83-acres of land and improvements known as the French Azilum Historic Site, located in Asylum Township, Bradford County to French Azilum, Inc. for \$1.00.

The bill places restrictive covenants on the deed of conveyance, as follows:

- The property must be maintained as an historic site, which is accessible to the public.
- The property must be maintained in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.
- No construction or use inconsistent with the historical covenants may be undertaken without approval by PHMC.
- Alterations may be done only with proper notice and approval by PHMC.
- Mining, excavating or removing natural resources from the property may be done only with prior approval of PHMC. PHMC must be consulted if archeological materials are found during excavation.

Also, the deed of conveyance will include a covenant prohibiting the property from being utilized as a licensed gaming facility. In the event that French Azilum, Inc. fails to abide by any of these covenants, the property will revert to the Commonwealth.

HB 223 establishes that the Commonwealth will not assume any obligation to maintain the French Azilum property, once the property is conveyed to the grantee.

Effective date: immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. According to the Department of General Services, the sale of this property will save the Commonwealth approximately \$32,000 in annual carrying costs.

PREPARED BY: Thomas Gwinn
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 10, 2019

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