



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 276

PRINTERS NO. 284

PRIME SPONSOR: Delozier

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	

SUMMARY:

House Bill 276, Printer's Number 284 amends Article 1 (Declaration of Rights) by adding a new Section 9.1 (Rights of victims of crime) to the Pennsylvania Constitution.

ANALYSIS:

HB 276 proposes an amendment to the PA Constitution that would add a new Section 9.1 to provide specific rights for victims as defined by the PA General Assembly. The legislation provides that victims will be protected in a manner no less vigorous than the rights afforded to the accused and are to be treated with fairness and respect. In addition to the protections afforded to the victim from the accused, the legislation further extends protections for the victim from anyone acting on behalf of the accused.

Pamphlet Laws Resolution No. 1 (*identical legislation*) was passed and filed in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth (SB 1011-Reschenthaler) on June 22, 2018. Upon passage of identical legislation in a subsequent legislative session, this legislation would take effect on the next January 1 following the approval by the electors.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Upon the second passage of a proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the Commonwealth is required to advertise the amendment in accordance with Article XI (Amendments), Section 1 (Proposal of amendments by the General Assembly and their adoption) of the Pennsylvania Constitution. The Secretary of the Commonwealth will submit the proposed constitutional amendment to electors at the first election that occurs at least three months following its passage in the General Assembly. The constitutional amendment advertising and ballot referendum requirements will result in a cost of approximately \$500,000 to \$1 million.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 4, 2019

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