



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 503

PRINTERS NO. 862

PRIME SPONSOR: Everett

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

House Bill 503, Printer's Number 862 amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), Chapter 59 (Depositions and Witnesses) by adding a new Subchapter E (Victims and Witnesses with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism) to assist victims and witnesses with intellectual disabilities or autism participate in court proceedings.

ANALYSIS:

HB 503 amends the Judicial Code, Chapter 59 (Depositions and Witnesses) by adding new Sections 5991 (Declaration of policy) and 5992 (Definitions) to provide for a statement of policy and the definitions of "Autism spectrum disorder" and an "Individual with an intellectual disability or autism." Section 5993 (Admissibility of certain statements) is added to provide that out-of-court statements made by an individual with an intellectual disability or autism who is a victim or witness describing certain offenses may be admissible in any criminal or civil proceeding.

This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Jenny P. Stratton
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 9, 2019

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