



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1036

PRINTERS NO. 1208

PRIME SPONSOR: Moul

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
Borough Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Borough Code to require a court of common pleas to certify a ballot question for a decrease in size of borough council to be submitted to the voters of an eligible borough in the case where at least 5% of the registered electors of that borough have petitioned the court asking for such a reduction. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the process by which a small borough, having a population of 3,000 residents or fewer, may seek to reduce the size of its borough council from seven members to either five members or three members.

To do so, interested individuals will need to prepare a petition, totaling at least 5% of the registered electors of the borough, which specifies the number of members of council proposed. When the petition is presented to the court of common pleas, the court must certify it to instruct the county board of elections that the question shall be presented for a referendum vote in the borough at the next general election scheduled no sooner than the 13th Tuesday following the date of the petition.

Upon receipt of the certified election results, the court is instructed to issue a final decree granting or denying the petitioner's request. If the petition is successful, transition to the new size of council shall proceed according to current law. No petition under this mechanism may be considered by the court more often than once every five years.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth or borough funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 17, 2019

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