



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1277

PRINTERS NO. 1485

PRIME SPONSOR: Ortitay

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21
General Fund, Dog Law Restricted Account, Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact

**SUMMARY:** House Bill 1277, Printer's Number 1485, requires fines, fees or costs currently directed to the Department of Agriculture for Dog Law enforcement to remain in the Dog Law Restricted Account.

**ANALYSIS:** This bill amends Title 42 (Judicial Code) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by inserting new language into Section 3733, addressing deposits into the Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account. The new paragraph states that "beginning on the effective date of this paragraph, fines, fees or costs which are allocated by law or otherwise directed to the Department of Agriculture under the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, shall not be affected by this subchapter." This exemption language will allow such revenues generated by the Office of Dog Law Enforcement to be retained within the Dog Law Restricted Account (DLRA) and used for the program instead of being transferred to the Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account (Judicial Account).

This legislation would take effect in 60 days upon enactment.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The exemption language included in this legislation would allow the DLRA to retain revenue that is currently transferred to the Judicial Account. These revenues totaled \$177,566 in FY 2018-19 while the average annual amount of this transferred revenue over the last ten years is approximately \$230,000. The Judicial Account has annual revenues to support an appropriation made each year in the General Appropriation Act, which is \$57 million in the current fiscal year.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** January 14, 2020

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