



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1444

PRINTERS NO. 2259

PRIME SPONSOR: Walsh

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	\$0	\$500,000 to \$1,000,000
Municipal Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends Article IX of the PA Constitution to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the removal of elected officers of a municipality for cause.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends Article IX, Local Government, of the PA Constitution by authorizing the General Assembly to provide, by uniform general law or classification, for the removal of elected officers of a municipality for cause. Cause shall include absenteeism from meetings and dereliction of duty.

This authorization does not preclude the use of other provisions contained in the PA Constitution for the disqualification, impeachment or removal of municipal officers.

As a proposed constitutional amendment, this legislation must pass each chamber of the General Assembly in two consecutive sessions and then must be presented to the voters for adoption. The resolution specifies that the referendum will take place at the first election that meets the requirements of Article XI, Section 1 of the PA Constitution, and which occurs at least three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is passed by the General Assembly.

FISCAL IMPACT: The first passage of a proposed constitutional amendment requires that the Secretary of the Commonwealth 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 constitutional amendment advertising requirements will result in a cost of approximately \$500,000 to \$1 million.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 25, 2019

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