



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1855

PRINTERS NO. 3055

PRIME SPONSOR: Bernstine

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21
General Fund	\$0	\$0

#### SUMMARY:

House Bill 1855 amends Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) concerning parole power. Effective dates vary by provision.

#### ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1855 would change the parole powers of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. It stipulates that the board may not release on parole a person convicted of a violent offense committed while incarcerated for at least 24 months following the expiration of the minimum term of imprisonment fixed by the court or by the Board of Pardons in a sentence which has been reduced by commutation or 24 months following the conviction, whichever is longer.

It also provides that the board may not release on parole a person convicted of an obstruction of justice offense committed while incarcerated for at least 12 months following the expiration of the minimum term of imprisonment fixed by the court or by the Board of Pardons in a sentence which has been reduced by commutation or 12 months following the conviction, whichever is longer.

These new provisions will only apply to individuals whose incarceration commences on or after the effective date of this legislation

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of Corrections (DOC) estimates the fiscal impact of this legislation would be minimal. The number of inmates held longer in State Correctional Institutions as a result of this bill would be relatively small and not have a material impact on the DOC inmate population or budget.

**PREPARED BY:** Jeff Miller  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** December 18, 2019

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