



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2429

PRINTERS NO. 3677

PRIME SPONSOR: Diamond

COST / (SAVINGS)

| FUND | FY 2019/20 | FY 2020/21 |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| General Fund | See "Fiscal Impact" | See "Fiscal Impact" |

SUMMARY: Amends the Administrative Code of 1929 (Code) to add a new Article relating to Emergency COVID-19 provisions regarding extension of waiver provisions to lawn and garden equipment and supplies stores. This legislation would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Code to allow the Secretary of Community and Economic Development to immediately issue waivers to the Governor's business closure order to all lawn and garden equipment and supplies stores that can adhere to the social distancing practices and other mitigation measures as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The legislation also provides that all businesses that receive a waiver and operate under the provisions of this legislation shall also provide, at minimum, the following protections for an essential employee:

- 1) Additional hazard pay, relative to the employee's risk of exposure.
- 2) Appropriate new personal protective equipment at the start of every shift. Personal protective equipment shall include, but not be limited to, gloves and a mask.
- 3) A work environment that maximizes the safety of the employee and the public, including, but not limited to, social distancing and barriers.
- 4) Cleaning areas with adequate soap and water and breaks to frequently engage in hand washing.
- 5) Leave for sickness, which shall be compensated at the employee's normal wage.
- 6) Information by the business if a coworker has been tested for COVID-19 and the results of those tests when available.

A business operating in this Commonwealth under a waiver that violates any of the protections for an essential employee shall be immediately closed and may not be permitted to reopen until the business is in compliance.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would permit lawn and garden equipment and supplies stores that are currently shut-down to reopen and operate under the proclamation of disaster emergency. To the extent lawn and garden equipment and supplies stores can begin to operate and generate revenue and income, the Commonwealth may realize additional revenues.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 29, 2020

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