



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 14

PRINTERS NO. 1017

PRIME SPONSOR: Gregory

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 14 is a Joint Resolution amending the Pennsylvania Constitution to provide for a two-year window in which an individual may file a civil action alleging childhood sexual abuse notwithstanding any otherwise applicable statute of limitations defense.

### ANALYSIS:

HB 14 amends the Pennsylvania Constitution, Article 1, Section 11 (Courts to be open; suits against the Commonwealth) by adding a new subsection (b). This new subsection provides that for an individual where the statute of limitations period has expired, or whose claim would otherwise be barred or limited by a statutory cap on damages, sovereign immunity or by governmental or official immunity, the individual will have a two-year window, without bar or limitation by such caps or immunities, in which to file a civil action alleging childhood sexual abuse.

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. This is the first consideration of this proposed constitutional amendment.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

In accordance with Article XI of the Pennsylvania Constitution, the first passage of this proposed constitutional amendment will require the Secretary of the Commonwealth to advertise the amendment in two newspapers in each county.

For this first passage of a proposed constitutional amendment, the approximate cost to advertise in two newspapers in each county ranges from \$1 million to \$1.5 million.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** January 27, 2021

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