



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1500

PRINTERS NO. 1563

PRIME SPONSOR: Klunk

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 1500, Printer's Number 1563, amends Chapter 32 (Abortion), Sections 3203 (Definitions), 3204 (Medical consultation and judgment), and 3214 (Reporting) of Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) to prohibit abortion based on a diagnosis of Down Syndrome. This legislation is effective in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: HB 1500 amends the Abortion Control Act to include a prohibition on abortion after a prenatal, diagnosis of, or a belief that the unborn child has, Down Syndrome.

The penalty for a physician who performs an abortion in violation of this prohibition will result in a third-degree felony and revocation of the physician's license to practice medicine. Penalties against a woman for violation of this provision or for attempting or conspiring to commit a violation are strictly prohibited.

A physician is required to provide a written acknowledgement that the abortion was not sought, in whole or in part, due to the sex of the unborn child or a prenatal diagnosis or test indicating the unborn child has Down Syndrome.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation would have an unknown fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. Insufficient data makes it difficult to determine how many individuals would be charged, convicted, and sentenced with a violation of Section 3204 (Medical consultation and judgment). According the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, no individuals were convicted of violating the Abortion Control Act from 2015 through 2019.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 8, 2021

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