



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1658

PRINTERS NO. 1857

PRIME SPONSOR: Heffley

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
Motor License Fund	See "Fiscal Impact"	See "Fiscal Impact"

SUMMARY: Authorizes PennDOT to share costs with a public utility associated with changing, altering, adjusting or relocating communications network lines when necessary as part of the construction, reconstruction, widening or relocation of a State highway, bridge or tunnel. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends Section 9501(a) of Title 74 (Transportation) to state that during the construction, reconstruction, widening or relocation of a State highway, bridge or tunnel, or a part thereof, PennDOT may change, alter, adjust or relocate a local exchange telecommunications company facility owned and operated by a public utility if PennDOT determines such action is necessary as part of the construction, reconstruction, widening or relocation project.

PennDOT must receive written agreement from the public utility that owns the local exchange telecommunications company facility before taking the action. This section is also amended to require that PennDOT receive written agreement from the public utility before taking the above action involving water lines or sanitary sewers owned by the public utility.

PennDOT may enter into agreements with the public utility for the sharing of costs of the change, alteration, adjustment or relocation. If, in PennDOT's opinion, the costs should be shared by PennDOT and a public utility and PennDOT is unable to agree with the public utility to a division of costs, PennDOT may proceed with the work and petition the PA Public Utility Commission for a determination of the costs to be borne by each party.

FISCAL IMPACT: Under Section 9501(b) of Title 74, PennDOT shall reimburse a public utility when relocating a water line or sanitary sewer. By adding local telecommunications facilities to Title 74, this would require additional reimbursements from PennDOT during a relocation or widening of a State highway or bridge. Any such estimate of these costs is indeterminable at this point.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: September 27, 2021

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