



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1660

PRINTERS NO. 1882

PRIME SPONSOR: Sonney

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

House Bill 1660 amends the Public School Code concerning temporary emergency provisions. It would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1660 amends the section of the Public School Code concerning temporary emergency provisions. The language in this section is deleted and replaced, outlining a new process by which a Board of School Directors can put into place temporary emergency provisions for a district. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year and thereafter, when an emergency arises which results in the school district being unable to provide for in-person instruction for five or more consecutive school days, the school board of directors has the power to put into operation temporary emergency provisions for up to 60 calendar days by a majority vote of the board. The Board must publish, on its publicly accessible internet website, a written plan for the implementation of the temporary emergency provisions, including an explanation and expected timeframe for implementing the emergency provisions. A school board may extend an emergency provision for up to 60 days by a majority vote of the board. The board must hold at least one public hearing prior to the vote to extend temporary emergency provisions.

A school district that invokes these provisions will not forfeit the district's right to reimbursement by the Commonwealth or other State-aid.

The Department of Education must issue and publish guidelines on its website for the implementation of this legislation within 30 days of its effective date.

According to this legislation, an emergency means an event that prevents a school building from opening due to a communicable health issue or incident, a hazardous weather condition, a law enforcement emergency, the inoperability of school buses or other equipment necessary to the public school entity's operation, damage to a school building, or another temporary circumstance rendering any portion of a school building unfit or unsafe for use.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: September 22, 2021

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