



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 863

PRINTER'S NO. 2410

PRIME SPONSOR: Williams

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

Establishes minimum standards for physical fitness and education as prerequisites to employment as a police officer in a city of the first class (Philadelphia).

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 863 Printer's Number 2285 amends Section 2164(8) of Title 53 (powers and duties of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission) to establish minimum physical fitness standards and educational standards as prerequisites to employment as a police officer in a city of the first class (Philadelphia).

The minimum physical fitness standards will require an applicant for police officer certification to score no lower than the 30th percentile of the Cooper Standards for each required evaluation. Further, an individual may not be enrolled into a training program unless they score in the 15th percentile or higher for the individual's age and gender as specified in the Cooper Standards for each required evaluation. The legislation lowers the training program enrollment requirement from the 30th percentile to the 15th percentile. These standards will expire five years after the effective date of the legislation.

The minimum education standards require an applicant to demonstrate reading comprehension through a test approved by the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission. The commission is required to immediately approve two reading comprehension tests and may evaluate additional tests. The commission is required to transmit notice of approved reading comprehension tests to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication.

Within twelve months of the effective date of the legislation, the Joint State Government Commission will issue a report to the General Assembly on the impact of the current minimum standards on recruitment, education, and training.

This legislation would take effect immediately upon enactment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no impact on Commonwealth funds. Any additional personnel costs associated with adjusting the training curriculum and with reviewing proposed alternative reading comprehension tests will be minimal and can be absorbed within the current budget of the commission. The required report by the Joint State Government Commission can be completed within current staffing levels.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: December 13, 2023

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