



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1296

PRINTER'S NO. 1416

PRIME SPONSOR: **Brown**

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact
Local Government	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY:

Requires all on-duty law enforcement officers to be accompanied by a fellow law enforcement officer while on duty in a designated critical crime area.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1296 Printer's Number 1416 amends Title 44 (Law and Justice) to add a chapter that requires all on-duty law enforcement officers to be accompanied by a fellow law enforcement officer while on duty in a critical crime area which is defined as a location in the Commonwealth which "poses a substantial threat to law enforcement officers on duty or as defined by the Attorney General."

The bills grant authority to the Attorney General to identify, define, and designate critical crime areas. Law enforcement agencies may petition the Attorney General for temporary critical crime area designation if the area poses a substantial threat to law enforcement officers in that area. Upon receipt of a petition, the Attorney General must respond within 30 days.

This legislation would take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the Office of Attorney General, the requirements of this legislation would necessitate real-time monitoring of crime rates in locations around the Commonwealth. The staffing requirements for these activities would cost approximately \$500,000 annually to fund four positions. Additional funds may be needed to pay for office space and supplies for these positions. If real-time monitoring is not needed, it is possible that the cost of the legislation would be closer to \$250,000 annually.

Depending on the number, size, and location of critical crime areas in the Commonwealth, it is possible that this legislation could result in increased overtime for the Commonwealth and for local government.

PREPARED BY: Bradley Keen
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: June 28, 2023

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