



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1476

PRINTER'S NO. 2435

PRIME SPONSOR: Vitali

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	\$100,000	\$375,000

SUMMARY: HB 1476 PN 2435 establishes reporting requirements for certain cryptocurrency mining operations. This legislation would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS: This legislation creates the Cryptocurrency Energy Conservation Act to provide for:

- Reporting Requirements – to report within 6 months of effective date and annually thereafter:
 - Number/location of qualifying crypto mining operations
 - Number/type of devices engaged in mining within the past year
 - Amount and source of electric energy consumed by the operation
 - Emissions associated with the electric generation for electricity consumed
 - Water use associated with colling mining devices
- Impact Study – requires the Department of Environmental Protection to submit a report on the environmental impacts of qualifying crypto-asset mining operations in Pennsylvania, in consultation with PUC. The report would include:
 - Number/location of existing or planned mining operations
 - Amount of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from mining operations
 - Anticipated increase in mining operations in Pennsylvania
 - Potential impacts of crypto mining on the Commonwealth's ability to reach climate goals
 - Ecological impact associated with crypto mining
 - Public health impacts near crypto mining operations
 - Potential impacts of noise related to crypto mining
 - Amount and source of energy consumed
 - Analysis of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
 - Analysis of demand-response programs negotiated between crypto mining operations and public utilities
 - Analysis of rate design measures that could be used to reduce energy consumption
- Regulations – requires the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Quality Board to promulgate regulations

FISCAL IMPACT: The enactment of this legislation would have a fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds, as a result of the need to hire additional personnel. According to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the agency would need to add two (2) Air Quality Program Specialist positions, to perform its duties as provided by the legislation. Including salary and benefits, for the two positions, the cost to the agency would be \$100,000 for FY 2023/24 and \$375,000 for FY 2023/24. While DEP is required to consult with Public Utility Commission (PUC) related to the impact study in carrying out provisions of the legislation, PUC would be able to perform its consulting duties with existing personnel.

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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.