



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1885

PRINTER'S NO. 2448

PRIME SPONSOR: McAndrew

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY:

House Bill 1885 amends Section 153(a)(1) of Title 15 to exempt volunteer fire companies from the fee to file articles of incorporation.

ANALYSIS:

This bill adds a section that provides that a volunteer fire company filing articles of incorporation shall be exempt from the payment of the fee established under Section 153(a)(1)(i). It further outlines that an individual who fraudulently obtains a fee exemption or assigns, transfers or attempts to assign or transfer a fee exemption commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.

It also directs the Department of State to compile annually the total number of exemptions applied for and issues and the total dollar amount of the fee exemptions. The department shall issue an annual report with this information and transmit the report to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate and of the House.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of State anticipates a loss of no more than \$2,000 annually. Since 2022, 16 fire departments have filed articles of incorporation. The initial fee to register as a charitable organization ranges from \$15 to \$250 depending on the gross annual contributions the organization receives.

PREPARED BY: Chris Fetterman
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: March 18, 2024

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