



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1956

PRINTER'S NO. 2722

PRIME SPONSOR: Kosierowski

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY:

Amends Act 112 of 2018, known as the Patient Test Result Information Act to require providers of diagnostic imaging services to release most test results to patients once the results are ready. The bill further imposes duties on the Department of Health to monitor compliance with these requirements.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1956, Printer's Number 2722 amends requirements for diagnostic imaging services to provide written notification to patients, at the time of the imaging service, that their imaging results will be available on their electronic healthcare record once they are ready. This notification is not required if:

- The patient was notified of results at the time of service, or
- The notification requires a face-to-face meeting or counseling session between the health care practitioner and the patient

Additionally, the bill provides a grace period to the ordering health care practitioner if the results have a reasonable likelihood of showing malignancy or tests that could reveal genetic markers. The bill gives the ordering health care practitioner one full business day to review such results before they are released to the patient portal.

Furthermore, the bill imposes duties on the health care facility, clinical laboratory, or entity performing the diagnostic imaging service to implement policies and procedures for providing patient test results according to this bill. The bill requires the Department of Health to complete compliance reviews to determine whether policies and procedures have been developed and implemented in accordance with the bill, and to investigate complaints for any violations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation requires the Department of Health to conduct compliance reviews of health care facilities and clinical laboratories licensed and permitted by the department. The legislation further limits the scope of the department's compliance reviews to focus on whether these providers have developed and implemented policies and procedures. Therefore, any costs are expected to be de minimis and may be covered within the department's current appropriations. Therefore, there is no impact on commonwealth funds.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

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