



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FISCAL NOTE

Special Session #1 of 2023

HOUSE BILL NO. 1

PRINTERS NO. 6

PRIME SPONSOR: Gregory

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
General Fund	\$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000 See Fiscal Impact	

SUMMARY:

House Bill 1, Printers Number 6, Special Session 1 of 2023-2024, is a joint resolution proposing to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution. The proposed amendment would provide a two-year window for individuals to file civil actions arising from childhood sexual abuse.

ANALYSIS:

HB 1 proposes to amend Article 1, Section 11 of the Pennsylvania Constitution to add a new subsection (b). This new subsection provides that an individual for whom a statutory limitations period has already expired, or whose claim would otherwise be barred or limited by a statutory cap on damages, sovereign immunity or by governmental or official immunity, shall have a two-year period without bar or limitation by such caps or immunities, to commence an action arising from childhood sexual abuse.

This proposed constitutional amendment was previously passed by the General Assembly as J.R. 2021-2 (Pamphlet Laws Resolution No. 2 of 2021) on April 20, 2021, and is on second passage by the General Assembly, as required by the amendment procedures in Article IX of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Upon second passage by the General Assembly, Section 2(b) of the bill requires the Secretary of the Commonwealth to immediately comply with the proposed constitutional amendment advertising requirements of Section 1 of Article IX of the Constitution and publish the advertisement in two newspapers in each county. The Secretary shall submit the proposed amendment to the electors of the commonwealth at the first primary, general, or municipal election which occurs at least three months after the proposed amendment is passed by the General Assembly.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Article IX of the Pennsylvania Constitution will require the Secretary of the Commonwealth to advertise the proposed amendment in two newspapers in every county of the commonwealth.

The approximate cost to comply with the advertising requirement is estimated to be between \$1 million to \$1.5 million. These costs will be paid through the General Fund. The fiscal year in which the costs fall depends on the timing of the bill's passage.

PREPARED BY: Eric Dice
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: February 23, 2023

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