



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FISCAL NOTE

Special Session #1 of 2023

HOUSE BILL NO. 2

PRINTERS NO. 7

PRIME SPONSOR: ROZZI

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	

SUMMARY:

House Bill 2 amends Title 42 to create a two-year temporary window to file civil action claims alleging childhood sexual abuse. The bill also retroactively and prospectively applies exceptions to sovereign and governmental immunity for childhood sexual abuse. The legislation would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 2 amends Title 42 to create a temporary two-year window to file civil action claims alleging childhood (under 18 at the time of the cause of action) sexual abuse for instances where the limitation period for that cause of action has expired. The temporary two-year window would open upon passage of the legislation.

The bill also states that the exceptions to sovereign and governmental immunity for childhood sexual abuse, granted by Act 87 of 2019, apply retroactively and prospectively to the effective date of this legislation.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is granted extraordinary jurisdiction to hear a challenge or to render a declaratory judgement concerning the constitutionality of the bill. The provisions of the bill are nonseverable, meaning if any provision of the bill is found to be invalid, then the remaining provisions of the bill would be void.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation could have a fiscal impact on the Commonwealth and on local governments by allowing for civil lawsuits for childhood sexual abuse that are currently barred due to governmental and sovereign immunity. The size of the impact is impossible to estimate at this time and would depend on the number of lawsuits and the size of any awards.

PREPARED BY:

Bradley Keen

House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE:

February 21, 2023

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