

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** House Bill 181

**PRINTER'S NO.** 1851

**AMOUNT**

No fiscal impact to the Commonwealth

**FUND**

General

**DATE INTRODUCED**

February 2, 2009

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Cutler

**HISTORY OF BILL**

Referred to GAME AND FISHERIES, Feb. 2, 2009

Reported as amended, March 31, 2009

First consideration, March 31, 2009

Laid on the table, March 31, 2009

Removed from table, April 1, 2009

Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, April 1, 2009

Re-reported as committed, May 6, 2009

Second consideration, with amendments, May 12, 2009

(Remarks see House Journal Page 840), May 12, 2009

Third consideration and final passage, June 1, 2009 (192-0)

(Remarks see House Journal Page 869), June 1, 2009

In the Senate

Referred to GAME AND FISHERIES, June 4, 2009

Reported as committed, Jan. 26, 2010

First consideration, Jan. 26, 2010

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, March 8, 2010

Re-reported as committed, Sept. 20, 2010

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

House Bill 181 amends Title 34 (Game) by codifying controlling precedents from the United State Supreme Court and the Pennsylvania appellate courts on issues related to the powers of wildlife conservation officers and deputy conservation officers to stop, search or inspect a person, means of transportation or property.

# **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

## **FISCAL NOTE**

Enforcement officers are allowed to carry out their duties as follows:

- 1) Officers may stop a means of transportation under reasonable suspicion or administrative procedures for road check points.
- 2) Officers may search a person or means of transportation under probable cause or consent, provided the purpose of the search is communicated and identification is provided.
- 3) Officers may conduct administrative inspections of persons, licenses, permits, firearms, ammunition, and other implements of hunting or any means of transportation used as blinds or hunting locations. Also may conduct inspections of coolers and containers at a hunting location.
- 4) Officers may demand and secure identification from a person who is the subject of an official investigation or detention supported by reasonable suspicion, provided the officer presents a badge or other means of official identification.
- 5) Officers are prohibited from entering curtilage in the course of his official duties.

The bill also defines the scope of an officer's employment.

The bill is effective in 60 days.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No costs to the Commonwealth are anticipated by the enactment of the bill's provisions. The bill brings the Game Code into compliance with case law.