

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 287

PRINTER'S NO. 289

AMOUNT

No adverse fiscal impact

FUND

General

DATE INTRODUCED

Feb. 19, 2009

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Browne

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to EDUCATION, Feb. 19, 2009
Reported as committed, March 24, 2009
First consideration, March 24, 2009
Re-reported to APPROPRIATIONS, March 25, 2009
Re-reported as committed, June 1, 2009

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 287 amends Sections 281 (Reports to Department of Education) and 921-A (Financial Reports) of the Public School Code to exempt the annual financial reports submitted by public entities from generally accepted accounting and reporting requirements. In addition, it requires the Department of Education to establish reporting standards for annual financial statements which conform to fund level reporting criteria only and do not require the submission of entity-wide statements, management discussions and notes to the financial statements.

Article XXIV of the Public School Code already requires school entities to submit a financial audit based on generally accepted accounting and reporting standards. The changes made by this bill would eliminate the need to submit the same reports as part of both the annual financial report and financial audit.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 287 will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. Public school entities may experience administrative costs savings by eliminating the need to file duplicative reports with the Department of Education.