

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 431

PRINTER'S NO. 2694

AMOUNT

No Adverse Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

February 4, 2013

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Gingrich

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to CHILDREN AND YOUTH, Feb. 4, 2013

Reported as amended, April 9, 2013

First consideration, April 9, 2013

Laid on the table, April 9, 2013

Removed from table, April 10, 2013

Second consideration, with amendments, April 16, 2013

Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, April 16, 2013

(Remarks see House Journal Page 567), April 16, 2013

Re-reported as committed, April 17, 2013

Third consideration and final passage, April 17, 2013 (191-0)

(Remarks see House Journal Page 640), April 17, 2013

In the Senate

Referred to CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
May 6, 2013

Reported as amended, Nov. 19, 2013

First consideration, Nov. 19, 2013

Second consideration, Nov. 20, 2013

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, Nov. 20, 2013

Re-reported as committed, Dec. 3, 2013

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 431 amends Title 23 to require child abuse recognition and reporting training.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation provides that any licensing board with jurisdiction over professional licensees identified as mandated reporters must require all license/certification applicants to submit documentation of at least three hours of approved child abuse recognition and reporting training. Further, for all license/certification renewals, professionals must submit documentation of at least two hours of continuing education of approved child abuse recognition and reporting training per licensing cycle. The two hours of continuing education will count as a portion of the total continuing education required for licensure renewal. The licensing board may exempt an applicant or licensee from these requirements if adequate documentation is provided that the professional has already completed child abuse recognition training; the training was required by the Public School Code or the Public Welfare Code; and the amount of training received equals or exceeds the amount of training or continuing education required in the bill.

The child abuse recognition and reporting training or continuing education must address, but is not limited to, recognition of the signs of child abuse and the reporting requirements for suspected child abuse in Pennsylvania. Training and continuing education must be approved by the Department of Public Welfare.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 431 will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. The Child Protective Services Law requires the Department of State to make educational and training programs and materials available for all licensing boards whose licensees are charged with reporting suspected child abuse. The Department of State and Department of Public Welfare may incur some administrative expenses to perform these duties; however, these costs can be absorbed by their current operating budgets.