

# **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** House Bill 974

**PRINTER'S NO.** 3276

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

March 12, 2013

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative R. Brown

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

House Bill 974 amends Section 1423 (Automatic External Defibrillators) of the Public School Code to provide for a program to assist school entities and nonpublic schools in making automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) available in school buildings.

Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Department of General Services, to biennially issue an invitation to bid for the cost of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) and other equipment and supplies necessary for the proper operation of the device. Allows school entities, including nonpublic schools, to purchase AEDs at the contract bid price. Provides that the General Assembly may appropriate funding for the program and the Department of Education may provide school entities and nonpublic schools that are not equipped with AEDs a discount from the contract bid price or AEDs with funds made available to it for this purpose. Provides that the purchase of an AED shall be considered an allowable use of Pennsylvania Accountability Grants and an innovative educational program under the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.

Provides for school entities to make an annual report to the Department of Education detailing the number, condition, age and placement of AEDs in each school building. Requires nonpublic schools that acquire an AED through the program comply with the reporting requirements. Requires the Department of Education to annually publish a report, which details the number of AEDs by school entity, the number of school buildings by school entity equipped with AEDs and the number of school buildings by school entity that are not equipped with AEDs.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 60 days.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The enactment of House Bill 974 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The administrative and reporting responsibilities delegated to the Department of Education, Department of Health and Department of General Services as a result of provisions related to the AED program are minor and can be accomplished within the agencies' general government operations budgets. Funding for the purchase of AEDs and to provide discounts from the contract bid price will be dependent on appropriations made by the General Assembly.