

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 1420

PRINTER'S NO. 3544

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

May 23, 2013

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Boback

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 1420 creates the Newborn Child Pulse Oximetry Screening Act. HB 1420 requires the Department of Health to ensure that all birthing facilities and births occurring outside a birthing facility that are attended by midwives utilize pulse oximetry to screen newborns for congenital heart defects.

The Department may identify an alternative test if one is developed that meets medical guideline consensus and recommendations issued by national medical organizations advocating on behalf of cardiovascular care. Approval shall be done by publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin and after a 30-day public comment period.

Exceptions are permitted if a parent or guardian dissents on the ground that the test conflicts with a religious belief or practice.

This act shall take effect in 90 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1420 will have no fiscal impact. The Department of Health currently recommends that hospitals and birthing centers preform this test as a best practice and do not anticipate any fiscal impact from this legislation. The pulse oximetry test is performed in the birthing facility and does not require laboratory services to determine the results.