

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 33

**PRINTER'S NO.** 1431

**AMOUNT**

No Significant Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

March 15, 2013

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Mensch

**HISTORY OF BILL**

Referred to AGING AND YOUTH, March 15, 2013  
Reported as amended, Sept. 24, 2013  
First consideration, Sept. 24, 2013  
Second consideration, Sept. 25, 2013  
Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, Sept. 25, 2013  
Re-reported as amended, Oct. 1, 2013

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

Senate Bill 23 Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations) and provides for protection from employment discrimination.

Amends the Child Protective Services Law to provide "whistleblower" protection by enabling a person to commence an action for appropriate relief in the court of common pleas if all the following apply:

- The person is mandated reporter of suspected child abuse or is encouraged to report suspected child abuse.
- The person acted in good faith in making or causing the report of suspected child abuse to be made.
- As a result of the report, the person is discharged from employment or is discriminated against with respect to compensation, hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, as long as the person is not found to be a perpetrator due to the report.

The court may grant appropriate relief, which may include reinstatement of the plaintiff with back pay.

The Department of Public Welfare may intervene in a commenced action. Amends the definition of "perpetrator" in the Child Protective Services Law by:

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2014.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Senate Bill 33 will have no significant fiscal impact to the Commonwealth.