

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 153

PRINTER NO. 1318

AMOUNT

\$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 in FY 2015-16

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 22, 2015

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Knowles

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 153 proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to reduce the size of the House of Representatives from 203 to 151.

In order to amend the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the bill proposing the amendment must be passed by the General Assembly in two consecutive legislative sessions, be advertised per Article XI, §1 of the Constitution, and finally be approved by the electorate.

If the proposal is approved by the voters, the General Assembly shall enact legislation to implement the constitutional amendment. It would apply to the first session of the General Assembly which begins after the 2020 reapportionment.

This proposal was introduced as House Bill 1234 in the 2013-2014 legislative session, but failed to pass both chambers of the General Assembly.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Under Article XI, §1 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Secretary of the Commonwealth is required to have the proposed amendment published in two newspapers in every county throughout the Commonwealth, upon the first and second passage of the bill by the General Assembly. In addition, the Secretary of the Commonwealth is required to submit the proposed amendment to the qualified electors of the Commonwealth upon second passage.

According to the Department of State, it is estimated to cost approximately \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 for the required advertisement of the passage of this Constitutional amendment.