

# **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** House Bill 400

**PRINTER NO.** 1957

**AMOUNT**

See Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

February 17, 2015

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Gingrich

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

House Bill 400 establishes the Work Experience for High School Students with Disabilities Act and imposes duties on the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) in the Department of Labor and Industry.

This legislation requires OVR to provide pre-employment transition services to students with disabilities and to facilitate the process of job and career development between local education agencies and employers.

OVR shall collaborate with local education and public agency officials to:

1. Provide information for the development of individual education plans for high school students with disabilities and ensure that job skill training is included when appropriate.
2. Arrange for work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school or after-school experience outside traditional school settings.
3. Provide professional guidance relative to job coaching services.
4. Provide counseling related to enrollment opportunities in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs.
5. Publish quarterly reports on its public website.
6. Report on the progress of the implementation of this legislation to the Secretary of Labor and Industry, the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council, the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Secretary of Education.

The Statewide Board of Vocational Rehabilitation shall be responsible for reviewing reported progress and advising OVR officials.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

House Bill 400 requires the provisions of the act take effect upon the initial appropriation of funds that sufficiently cover the cost of the program. OVR is required to publish notice of the appropriation in the Pennsylvania Bulletin when it is enacted.

Implementation of this act will be contingent upon sufficient funds being appropriated by the General Assembly.