

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 202

PRINTER NO. 169

AMOUNT

No Fiscal impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 20, 2015

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Schwank

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 202 establishes a new Chapter 3-A (Pennsylvania Safe Campus) in the Uniform Crime Reporting Act related to reporting of sexual assault and intimate partner violence on college and university campuses.

Requires an institution of higher education to annually post its crime statistics on its official Internet website. Requires the crime statistics to include: (1) the number of valid complaints of sexual assault and intimate partner violence reported to law enforcement; (2) a statement indicating where information concerning the location of sexual offenders can be obtained; and, (3) a description of programs to students, employees and other institution of higher education officials concerning the institution's security procedures and practices relating to sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

Requires an institution of higher education have a policy that informs students, employees and officials of the institution of the rights of victims and the responsibilities of witnesses. Requires an institution of higher education to offer a program on the prevention and awareness of sexual assault and intimate partner violence for all students and employees.

Provides the Attorney General may bring action to compel compliance against an institution of higher education. Provides the court may award civil penalties as follows: (1) not more than \$1,000 for each day of violation for noncompliance; (2) not more than \$25,000 for the first case of intentional misrepresentation or concealment of a valid complaint required to be reported; and, (3) not more than \$50,000 or a second a subsequent intentional misrepresentation or concealment of a valid complaint required to be reported.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 180 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of Senate Bill 202 will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth Funds. To the extent that colleges and universities must comply with the provisions of this act related to reporting, adoption of informational policies and awareness programs they may incur costs.