

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** House Bill 1448

**PRINTER NO.** 2109

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

May 25, 2017

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Cutler

**DESCRIPTION**

House Bill 1448 establishes a new Article XX-H (Higher Education Accountability and Transparency) in the Public School Code to require the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to provide information on its website that compares institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania.

Requires PDE to provide a link on its website to the United States Department of Education's College Navigator website and a link to the Department of Labor and Industry's High Priority Occupations website.

Requires the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency to provide a link on its website to the information on PDE's website.

Requires school entities to provide this information to students in grades nine through twelve annually.

Provides that if the College Navigator Website ceases operation at some future date, PDE must develop a tool to allow for the comparison of institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 60 days.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

House Bill 1448 will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth Funds. Adding the information required by the legislation to PDE and PHEAA's websites are routine administrative functions that can be accomplished within the agencies' existing operating budgets. In addition, the College Navigator website is statutorily required and will likely continue operations into the foreseeable future.