

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. Senate Bill 168

PRINTER NO. 140

AMOUNT

No Fiscal impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 20, 2017

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Stefano

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 168 establishes a free-standing act entitled the Public Employer Collective Bargaining Transparency Act to require any proposed collective bargaining agreement between a public employer and an employee organization that has been reduced to writing to be posted on the public employer's publically accessible Internet website within 48 hours of the proposed agreement.

Requires public employers to post notice at least two (2) weeks prior to the signing of an agreement and for 30 days after the agreement is signed that includes the terms of the proposed agreement and an estimate of the costs to the public employer. If the public employer does not have a publically accessible Internet website, it is required to publish the notice once at least two (2) weeks prior to the signing of the proposed collective bargaining agreement.

Provides that proposed collective bargaining agreements and any documents that are presented by a public employer or received by a public employer from an employee organization are public records subject to the Right-to-Know Law. Provides that any collective bargaining agreement executed without providing the required notice is void and unenforceable.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 30 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 168 will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The cost to post documents on public employers' websites should be minimal and accomplished within their normal operating budgets. For a public employer that does not maintain a publically accessible Internet website there will be a cost to publish the required notice.