

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 761

**PRINTER NO.** 1383

**AMOUNT**

\$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 in FY 2018-19

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

June 16, 2017

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Argall

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 761 is a Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regarding the election of the Lieutenant Governor.

This legislation would amend Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution to require each candidate for Governor, upon winning the nomination of the candidate's party, to choose a candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

The candidate for Governor shall select a candidate for Lieutenant Governor no later than 90 days before the general gubernatorial election, and the candidate is subject to approval of the candidate's political party.

A candidate may not seek election to both offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor simultaneously.

The legislation would remove from the Constitution the current process for selection of the Lieutenant Governor, which provides for the separate election of the Lieutenant Governor.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Under Article XI, Section 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 is required to submit the proposed amendments to the qualified electors of the Commonwealth upon second passage.

The Department of State estimates the cost for the required advertisements of passage of a Constitutional amendment to be approximately \$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000.

Therefore, the total cost for advertising upon passage in two consecutive legislation sessions would cost approximately \$2,000,000 - \$3,000,000.

Given the time frame for passage of this legislation, we assume that only the advertising of the first passage of the amendment will occur in Fiscal Year 2018-19.