

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 773

PRINTER NO. 971

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 16, 2017

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator McGarrigle

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 773 amends Act 253 of 1929 (relating to incorporated towns) to provide for concise publication of required annual financial reporting information in a newspaper of general circulation.

The legislation allows for publication of concise annual financial information, approved by the auditors and consistent with the audited financial statements, to include the following:

- Total assets, total liabilities and total net position at the end of the fiscal year; and
- Total revenue, total expenses and changes in total net position for that fiscal year.

It is required that the publication reference a place where full copies of annual financial reporting information can be examined.

A copy of the full annual financial reporting information shall be provided to the newspaper along with the request for publication.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to Commonwealth funds.

The legislation would allow for incorporated towns to publish more concise financial information. The average cost to publish an advertisement in a medium size paper in the Legal Notice section, for a full page is about \$ 6,800, half-page \$ 3,400 and quarter-page \$ 1,700.

Assuming that the amount of information to be reported will be reduced and allow municipalities to publish in an area half the size they currently are, it can be estimated that a municipality will save about half of its current annual cost to publish its annual financial information.