

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 1034

PRINTER NO. 1441

AMOUNT

\$1.130 Million to \$1.280 Million

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 29, 2018

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Scarnati

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 1034 amends the Congressional Redistricting Act of 2011, repealing provisions relating to congressional districts.

This legislation would repeal all language relating to the current apportionment of the Commonwealth into 18 districts to elect representatives to serve in the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States.

This legislation is necessary due to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's January 22, 2018, decision in *League of Women Voters v. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*.

The Court's decision provided the General Assembly until February 9, 2018, to submit to the Governor and, if accepted by the Governor, until February 15, 2018, to submit to the Court a congressional districting plan that satisfies the requirements of the Pennsylvania Constitution. If no plan is submitted to the Court within the timeframe outlined, the Court shall adopt an apportionment plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

As is statutorily required, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall publish notice of the congressional districts at least once in at least one newspaper of general circulation in each county. We estimate the publishing cost to the Commonwealth to be \$150,000 per statewide publication. If the Commonwealth issues a second statewide publication, it will incur an additional \$150,000 publication cost.

In addition, the various branches of Commonwealth government will incur costs for mapping experts. The Governor's Office has announced it has enlisted assistance from an outside firm. The Supreme Court has also identified an entity whose services have been utilized by the State of North Carolina in a similar manner at a cost of \$500 per hour.

Assuming four outside firms are hired by the various branches of government at a cost of \$500 hour (with three staff for each firm), the Commonwealth will incur \$480,000 in expert costs if these firms bill the Commonwealth for two weeks of work.

There is also an incurred legal cost estimated to be about \$500,000 for work related to the publishing of the new apportionment plan.

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	Cost with One Publishing (Required)	Cost with Two Publishings (Potential)
Publishing	\$150,000	\$300,000
Expert Fees	\$480,000	\$480,000
Legal Costs	\$500,000	\$500,000
Total	\$1,130,000	\$1,280,000