

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 305

PRINTER NO. 2574

AMOUNT

\$150,000

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

February 1, 2019

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Snyder

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 305 establishes the State-owned Assets and Mobile Broadband Services Act to provide for the Department of General Services (DGS) to include in its inventories and surveys of real estate structures and assets information on the possible use of those assets for fixed or mobile broadband services. It also provides for DGS to use the information it obtains when analyzing the resources available in providing broadband services in underserved and unserved areas.

The legislation provides that a county may provide DGS with an inventory of its assets that are available and may be used to provide broadband services in underserved and unserved areas and that DGS shall include the information when analyzing the resources available in providing broadband services in those areas.

The legislation provides that a state agency having responsibility for the state-owned asset in an underserved area or unserved area may lease or convey a license or other interest in the asset to a qualified mobile broadband service provider in order to deploy mobile broadband services in the area, subject to the provider presenting DGS evidence of compliance with structural, permitting and other guidelines for review.

The legislation provides for DGS to adopt guidelines for qualifications for broadband service providers and negotiating and finalizing site occupancy agreements. It also provides for DGS to identify an appropriate timeline of no more than 90 days to approve site occupancy agreements.

The legislation provides that the Pennsylvania State Police shall have jurisdiction over the Statewide Mobile Radio and Microwave System and the allocation of proceeds from the lease or licensing of a tower or other asset of the Statewide Mobile Radio and Microwave System shall be used for the purpose of maintaining and improving the system.

The provisions of the legislation are not applicable to the State Police Commission and the Historic Museum Commission.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 180 days.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department of General Services has indicated that the provisions requiring a regular survey and inventory of information on the possible use of agency assets for fixed or mobile broadband services will require it to hire one additional full-time position at an annual cost for salary, benefits and other expenses of \$150,000.

As better information is made available regarding the location and availability of state-owned assets that may be utilized for deployment of broadband services, the Commonwealth may generate additional revenue from the lease or conveyance of such assets to qualified mobile broadband service providers.