

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 2293

PRINTER NO. 3847

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

February 18, 2020

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Quinn

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 2293 amends Title 66 (Public Utilities) to provide for emergency response plans by public utilities operating a natural gas liquids pipeline through high consequence areas.

The legislation requires a public utility that delivers natural gas liquids through a high consequence area to make emergency response plans available to the secretary of the Public Utility Commission (commission), the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and the emergency management director of each county where the high consequence area is located upon written request.

In the event the emergency response plans contain confidential security information subject to the Public Utility Confidential Security Information Disclosure Protection Act, each reviewer of the plan must do the following:

- Comply with all Public Utility Confidential Security Information Disclosure Protection Act requirements; and
- Enter into a notarized agreement with the public utility for the purpose of maintaining the confidentiality requirements.

A public utility that fails to comply may be subject to enforcement action by the commission.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT

The enactment of House Bill 2293 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. House Bill 2293 permits the commission to take enforcement action against any public utility that does not make their emergency response plan available following a written request. The commission has the authority to implement an enforcement action which could include a monetary fine. Any revenue generated by these enforcement actions would be contingent on a public utility's failure to comply with the provisions of House Bill 2293. Any costs related to additional enforcement actions by the commission as outlined by this legislation can be accommodated within the commission's current workload and budget.