SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 746

PRINTER NO. 923

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

June 10, 2019

FUND

General Fund Motor License Fund

PRIME SPONSOR

DATE INTRODUCED

Senator Vogel

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 746 amends Section 4706 (Prohibition on expenditures for emission inspection program) of Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to extend the transition date for new emissions testing equipment.

The legislation provides that an emissions inspection station in existence before March 1, 2019, shall have the option to obtain new emissions testing equipment required by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) by July 1, 2021, rather than November 1, 2019.

If the emissions inspection station elects not to obtain the new emissions testing equipment until July 1, 2021, the emissions inspection station must immediately notify the department.

This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation will affect all Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Program (I/M Program) stations in the Commonwealth.

Until recently, service stations, garages, and other emissions testing facilities were able to use computerized testing equipment tailored to the requirements of the I/M Region. In 2016, PennDOT issued a notice to provide updated emissions equipment specifications to be used for on-board diagnostic (OBD) systems testing, informing facilities that upgraded equipment will be needed.

The 2016 specifications call for testing devices that are capable of performing visual and OBD testing. Currently, all emissions testing equipment must be upgraded by November 1, 2019. This legislation extends that deadline until July 1, 2021.

Enactment of this legislation will have no effect on Commonwealth funds.