

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 869

**PRINTER NO.** 1758

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

October 1, 2019

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Mastriano

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 869 amends the Public School Code by adding a new Section 1555 (Moment of silence on September 11 anniversary) to provide for a moment of silence on the anniversary of September 11, 2001.

The legislation provides that beginning with the 2020-2021 school year and any subsequent school year, when September 11 falls on a school day, each school entity shall conduct a moment of silence during instructional hours for students and faculty to observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001, as a remembrance to the military service persons, government employees, civilians and emergency responders who lost their lives or were wounded by terrorist attacks on that date.

The legislation requires the Department of Education (department) to make available voluntary in-service training programs and model curriculum guidelines to each school entity and to nonpublic schools upon request.

The legislation defines "school entity" as a school district, charter school, regional charter school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area career and technical school.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect immediately.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The enactment of Senate Bill 869 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The Department of Education has indicated that the cost to develop voluntary in-service training programs and model curriculum guidelines is minimal and can be accomplished within its existing operating budget.

For information purposes, the FY 2019-20 General Fund Budget contains \$28,323,000 for the department's general government operations and the FY 2020-21 Interim General Fund Budget contains \$10,710,000 for the department's general government operations.