

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 854

PRINTER NO. 1752

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 10, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Ecker

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 854 amends the Administrative Code to provide for COVID-19 record retention and to grant an extension to the waiving of regulatory statutes, orders, rules or regulations that were suspended under the COVID-19 emergency declaration.

House Bill 854 requires that executive agencies preserve all records relating to the orders of a declaration of disaster emergency issued by the Governor relating to COVID-19. The preservation of records under this legislation shall conform with an executive agency's existing record retention policy.

Additionally, House Bill 854 provides for a 90-day extension to the suspension of a regulatory statute, order, rule or regulation that was previously suspended under the COVID-19 emergency declaration. The suspension of these regulatory statutes, orders, rules or regulations will be in effect until September 30, 2021, unless sooner terminated by the authority which initially authorized the suspension.

The legislation requires that upon termination of the extended timeframe for the suspension of regulatory statute, order, rule or regulation, the authority which initially authorized the suspension must notify the following:

- The President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
- The Majority Leader of the Senate;
- The Minority Leader of the Senate;
- The Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives;
- The Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and
- The chair and minority chair of each committee of the Senate and House of Representatives which have oversight authority over the Commonwealth agency which administers the regulatory statute, order, rule or regulation.

The act shall take effect immediately.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 854 has no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The implementation of the COVID-19 record retention provisions of House Bill 854 and the 90-day extension to the suspension of regulatory statutes, orders, rules and regulations can be accomplished within existing staffing and funding levels provided to executive agencies.