

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1349

PRINTER NO. 1443

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

May 5, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Pickett

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 1349 amends the Insurance Department Act of 1921 to enable the Insurance Department (department) to electronically process criminal history records for insurance producer applicants.

The bill amends the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L. 789, No. 285) known as the Insurance Department Act of 1921 to exempt insurance producer fingerprinting requirements from 18 Pa.C.S. § 9121(b)(2). This will allow the department to electronically process Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history reports.

Under current law, national criminal history record background checks for insurance producer licensees and applicants must be received by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) via the postal service from the FBI. Pursuant to the Crimes Code (Title 18) Section 9121(b)(2), the PSP must redact non-conviction information from the criminal history record. Exempting the department from this section will modernize and expedite the licensing process by receiving the records electronically from the FBI.

Current law requires producers to update the department if their address changes; the bill expands notification to include phone and email address changes.

This legislation shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1349 will have no fiscal impact on the Commonwealth. Although the bill will have no fiscal impact, the Insurance Department’s licensing process timeline should be reduced by allowing the department to receive the records electronically from the FBI. Additionally, the State Police will experience a slight decrease in workload as a result of no longer needing to redact non-conviction information from criminal history records of insurance producers.