

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 2458

PRINTER NO. 2981

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 24, 2022

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative White

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 2458 establishes the Philadelphia Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) Export Task Force.

This legislation establishes the Philadelphia LNG Export Task Force and provides for its duties. The task force shall be comprised of:

- Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP);
- Chairperson of the Pennsylvania Utility Commission (PUC);
- Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED);
- Secretary of Transportation (PennDOT);
- Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA);
- Member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore;
- Member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Leader;
- Member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker;
- Member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader;
- Mayor of Philadelphia;
- Two representatives of the oil, gas or LNG industries;
- Executive Director of the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority;
- CEO of the Philadelphia Gas Works; and
- One representative of the Philadelphia Building Trades.

The member appointed by the Speaker of the House shall act as the chair until a chair is elected by a majority of the task force members at the first meeting. The secretaries of Environmental Protection, Community and Economic Development, Transportation, chair of the PUC and the director of PEMA shall be non-voting members of the task force and shall not count toward gaining a quorum. The task force shall hold at least three meetings within the first year of the effective date of the legislation.

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House Bill 2458 tasks the task force with the following duties:

- Identify and examine the existing obstacles, economic feasibility, economic impact and security necessary to making the Port of Philadelphia an LNG export terminal;
- Identify industry partners who are able to assist in the conversion;
- Develop recommendations for making the conversion;
- Hold public meetings; and
- Issue a report no later than one year after the effective date of this legislation.

The bill takes effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 2458 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. It is anticipated that due to the brevity and expedited nature of the work of the task force, any administrative or operational costs would be de minimis and able to be covered by the task force chair or related caucus.