

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 139

PRINTER NO. 1922

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 28, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Mastriano

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 139 establishes a new Section 1555 (Moment of silence on September 11 anniversary) in the Public School Code to require school entities to conduct a moment of silence during instructional hours for students and faculty to observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001, as remembrance for the individuals who lost their lives or were wounded during the terrorist attacks.

The legislation requires the Department of Education (department) to establish a model curriculum for instruction in the events and significance of September 11, 2001. It also requires the department to make the model curriculum, materials and other resources available on its publicly accessible internet website for voluntary use by school entities.

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 provisions contained in Senate Bill 139 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The Department of Education has indicated that the provisions requiring it to develop a model curriculum and to post the curriculum, materials and other resources on its website will have no significant cost and can be accomplished with its existing general government operations budget as information pertinent to the subject is readily available. For information purposes, the department's Fiscal Year 2022-23 general government operations budget is \$36,404,000.