

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 439

**PRINTER NO.** 457

**AMOUNT**

See Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund  
Local Funds

**DATE INTRODUCED**

March 18, 2021

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Argall

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 439 amends the Recorder of Deeds Fee Law to eliminate a sunset within the law. Specifically, this bill removes the 10-year sunset in Section 2.2, which allows for the creation of a fee not to exceed \$15 to be charged by a recorder of deeds on each deed and mortgage recorded. Revenue generated from the fee is to be used for the demolition of blighted property within the county.

The provision was originally set to expire in 2026.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Senate Bill 439 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

Current law gives counties the option to impose a fee of not more than \$15 to be used for the demolition of blighted property. Currently, there are 18 counties that have filed the required reports with the Department of Community and Economic Development for the establishment of a fund and the imposition of a fee. Removing the sunset will allow counties to continue to levy the fee for the demolition of blighted property. The chart below lists the total revenue raised to date by counties that have chosen to impose a fee:

County	Total
Armstrong	\$ 210,835
Beaver	\$ 470,715
Blair	\$ 146,581
Butler	\$ 452,083
Cambria	\$ 426,600
Cameron	\$ 31,431
Dauphin	\$ 1,028,505
Delaware	\$ 1,781,535
Erie	\$ 618,037

County	Total
Fayette	\$ 302,790
Lawrence	\$ 302,709
Mifflin	\$ 124,228
Monroe	\$ 616,596
Northumberland	\$ 231,731
Somerset	\$ 209,220
Venango	\$ 74,084
Westmoreland	\$ 1,006,425
York	\$ 405,315