

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 484

PRINTER NO. 500

AMOUNT

See Fiscal Impact

FUND

Lottery Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 25, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Stefano

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 484 amends the act of November 24, 2015 (P.L. 232, No. 64), known as the Pennsylvania Long-term Care Council Act, to expand membership. Specifically, the bill adds the chair of the State Veterans' Commission or a designee to the Pennsylvania Long-term Care Council.

The Pennsylvania Long-term Care Council is charged with making recommendations on regulations, licensure, financing, or any other responsibilities of the departments and agencies that relate to the Commonwealth's long-term care services and supports system.

The Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission is comprised of representatives of all major veterans' organizations throughout the Commonwealth, as well as a representative of the Association of County Directors for Veterans Affairs. The State Veterans' Commission is tasked with advising the Adjutant General and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs on all matters pertaining to the status, welfare, benefits, employment and support of veterans and veterans' programs in this Commonwealth. Adding the chair of the State Veterans' Commission to the Long-term Care Council will help to enhance and coordinate the care of Pennsylvania's senior citizens.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Under current law, the Long-term Care Council Act specifies members may not receive compensation or remuneration for their service as council members or as committee members, and only nongovernmental council members shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel and related actual expenses accrued in the performance of their duties as members, in accordance with Commonwealth travel policy.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

If the chair of the State Veterans' Commission or designee is a nongovernmental member, the Pennsylvania Long-term Care Council may realize increased costs for travel and actual expenses accrued in performance of their duties. Expenses of nongovernmental members of the Long-term Care Council were \$2,000 in 2018. The council anticipates having six meetings this year, of which half will be through remote options. Assuming three meetings will be held in person, the administrative costs for the council may increase by \$1,000 in 2021. These costs are minimal and can be accommodated with funds budgeted to the Department of Aging in its General Government Operations appropriation, which is supported by the Commonwealth's Lottery Fund.