

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. Senate Bill 729

PRINTER NO. 831

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 1, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator J. Ward

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 729 amends the Nurse Aide Resident Abuse Prevention Training Act (Act 14 of 1997) to permit the delivery of resident abuse training programs for nurse aides in various platforms.

The bill permits resident abuse prevention training curriculum content for the theory and laboratory requirements for nurse aides to be delivered by any of the following means or in a combination thereof, if approved by the Department of Education: in person, online or via asynchronous, virtual reality or other digital delivery mechanism. The bill requires clinical hour requirements to be completed in an approved clinical setting.

Senate Bill 729 requires the Department of Education to annually report the progress of implementing the requirements of this section to the majority and minority chairpersons of the Senate Education and Aging and Youth committees, as well as the majority and minority chairpersons of the Education and Aging and Older Adult Services committees of the House of Representatives.

The bill removes outdated language pertaining to resident abuse prevention training of a nurse aide on or before March 1, 1998.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 729 will have no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. The Department of Education can review and approve the training curriculum and complete the new reporting requirements within existing staffing and budget levels.