

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 982

**PRINTER NO.** 1264

**AMOUNT**

See Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

December 10, 2021

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Baker

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 982 amends the Election Code to prohibit the use of non-public monies for the administration of elections.

This legislation requires election expenses to be funded through appropriations by federal, state or local revenues derived from taxes, fees and other sources of public revenue. In addition, the legislation provides that state and local governments may not solicit, apply for, enter into contract with or receive gifts, donations, grants or funding from a nongovernmental entity for election expenses. A violation of this section is a felony of the second degree.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Senate Bill 982 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The administration of elections is the responsibility of county governments. Currently, county governments fund elections through the county budgeting process and utilize taxes and fees that may not be uniform across the Commonwealth. State and federal funds may also be appropriated to offset election expenses. To the extent that county governments rely on non-public sources of funding for the administration of elections, a governmental source of revenue will need to be identified to provide for those activities in the future.

A violation of this section is a second degree felony, which may carry a term of imprisonment of not more than 10 years. Using the Department of Corrections' minimum marginal cost of \$29.44 per inmate/per day, the Commonwealth would incur additional annual costs of approximately \$10,750 for each defendant sentenced to a State Correctional Institution.