

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 260

PRINTER NO. 223

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 31, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Robinson

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 260 amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 61 (Prisons and Parole) to allow state parole agents of the Department of Corrections to wear body cameras.

Section 5702 (relating to definitions) of the Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act of Title 18 is amended by clarifying that a communication made in the presence of an agent under 61 Pa.C.S. § 6183 (relating to exception to prohibition of interception and disclosure of communications) who is on official duty and who is using an electronic, mechanical or other device that has been approved under section 5706(b)(4) and who has received training on such a device in a course approved by the Pennsylvania State Police to intercept a wire, electronic or oral communication is not included as "oral communication" as defined in the statute.

Title 61 is amended by adding section 6183 (relating to exception to prohibition of interception and disclosure of communications) to provide that an agent who has received training on the use of an electronic, mechanical or other device in a course approved by the Pennsylvania State Police shall be an investigative or law enforcement officer and may wear an electronic, mechanical or other device in the performance of official duties.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The legislation simply provides that a state parole agent "may" wear an electronic, mechanical or other device in the performance of official duties after receiving training and does not mandate the purchase or use of such devices.