

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1853

PRINTER'S NO. 2921

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

November 15, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Shusterman

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1853 amends Act 48 of 1979, the Health Care Facilities Act, to direct the Pennsylvania Department of Health to hold annual meetings with licensed nursing facilities under its jurisdiction. The meetings will discuss and analyze results of surveys that the department currently conducts on a regular basis.

The bill requires the department's Nursing Care Field Offices to hold a minimum of one annual meeting with staff from the licensed long-term care nursing facilities under their jurisdiction to discuss and analyze the survey results.

Meetings are to be conducted by region, with all facilities in the region given the opportunity to participate. Facilities are not required to participate. Meetings may be held virtually or in person.

Information obtained by the department during these meetings is not accessible under the Right-to-Know Law. In addition, the information cannot be used for criminal or civil actions, unless the information is unrelated to the conduct of the facilities, false or independently corroborated.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1853 will have no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. The Department of the Health is able to accommodate the increased administrative costs within its existing budget and staffing levels.