

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1070

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Cordoza

3. **Committee:** Counties, Cities, and Towns

4. **Title:** Fund to Assist Localities with Translation of Essential Information; established.

5. **Summary:** Establishes the Fund to Assist Localities with Translation of Essential Information to be administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of making grants to local governments to address the lack of translated documents for those citizens and taxpayers of the Commonwealth and its localities for whom English is a second language. The bill provides that the Fund shall make grants to local governments for the purpose of translating essential documents into foreign languages.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, to capitalize the fund. See item 8.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This bill establishes the Fund to Assist Localities with Translation of Essential Information to be administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). The provisions of the bill state that the Fund shall be supported by sums appropriated by the General Assembly. To capitalize the Fund, a budget amendment is required.

This bill would require DHCD to administer grants to local governments to pay for the expense of translating essential information. DHCD would also have to collect and organize reports from the localities on the status of all efforts to translate such information. The Board of Housing and Community Development must develop guidelines for the administration of the grant program. The provisions of the bill authorize DHCD to disburse from the Fund reasonable costs and expenses incurred in administration and management of the Fund. As the size and scope of this Fund is not known, the associated costs to administer the Fund are indeterminate. It is anticipated that a nongeneral fund appropriation will be required for DHCD to charge administrative expenses.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Housing and Community Development.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. **Other Comments:** None.