



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
2009-10 Legislative Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

HOUSE BILL: 1648

PRINTER'S NO: 2245

PRIME SPONSOR: Eachus

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2008/09	FY 2009/10
<b>Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):</b>		
General Fund	\$0	*See Analysis

**OVERVIEW:**

House Bill 1648 is a freestanding act providing for the creation of the Interbranch Commission on Juvenile Justice (Commission) which will be responsible for ascertaining how the Luzerne County juvenile justice system failed, restoring public confidence in the administration of justice, and preventing similar events from occurring.

The Commission will consist of 11 members, some of whom must meet certain criteria, who will be appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the General Assembly, and the Governor. Members of the Commission will not receive compensation, but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in service of the Commission.

Support for the Commission will be provided by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (administrative services), the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (administrative assistance), the Joint State Government Commission (administrative assistance), and the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (analyses, reports, and recommendations).

House Bill 1648 further provides for powers and duties of the Commission and requires the Commission to present recommendations and a final report to the Governor, the Supreme Court, and the General Assembly by May 31, 2010.

This act shall take effect immediately and it expires on June 30, 2010.

**ANALYSIS:**

According to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), estimated costs for the operation of the Commission are estimated to be approximately \$243,000. These estimated costs are for meetings, work sessions, and expert testimony. Actual costs will be for specialized services (stenographers, interpreters), advertising, printing, supplies, services, postage, travel/lodging/meals, and consulting fees. AOPC indicates that it will absorb its portion of costs within its current budget.

According to the Governor's Budget Office, executive agencies providing support for the Commission will also absorb costs within their current budgets.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

**DATE:** June 25, 2009

**General Note and Disclaimer:** *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*