



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2223

PRINTERS NO. 3642

PRIME SPONSOR: Gingrich

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2011/12	FY 2012/13
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 2223, Printer's Number 3642, amends the Open Space Law to authorize a portion of the local taxing option levy to be used to maintain property acquired for open space purposes and to provide a mechanism for repealing the local option tax. This shall take effect immediately upon enactment.

ANALYSIS: This bill amends the Open Space Law (Act 442 of 1967) by authorizing a local government unit, other than a county or county authority, that collects the local option tax at an increased rate for open space purposes to use up to 25% of the accumulated balance of the fund from the levy authorized by referendum, to maintain property purchased for an open space benefit or alternatively, for purposes of allocation, the local government unit may create a maintenance fund into which it may deposit an amount up to 25% of the annual revenue from the levy authorized by referendum to maintain property.

The referendum by the local government shall provide the electors a choice of the method by which the additional tax may be repealed, and framed in two-part form: whether to impose an earned income tax and, if the local taxing option is imposed, should the tax be repealed by no sooner than five years after the imposition of the tax or when any indebtedness incurred for payment of the property acquired has been repaid by either referendum or ordinance at the discretion of the governing body.

FISCAL IMPACT: While there may be additional costs related to imposing a referendum at the local level, enactment of this legislation will not adversely impact Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Jeffrey Clukey
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 5, 2012

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.