



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1051

PRINTERS NO. 1457

PRIME SPONSOR: Stephens

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	

SUMMARY:

House Bill 1051, Printer's Number 1457 amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations), Chapter 63 (Child Protective Services), Subchapter B (Provisions and Responsibilities for Reporting Suspected Child Abuse), Section 6319 (Penalties) to further provide for penalties for failure to report suspected child abuse by mandated reporters.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1051 amends Section 6319 of the Domestic Relations Code by increasing the offense of willfully failing to report suspected child abuse by a mandated reporter when it is a "continuing course of action" from a misdemeanor of the first degree to a felony of the third degree. Except that, if the child abuse constitutes a felony of the first degree or higher, the person commits a felony of the second degree.

The statute of limitations for an offense under this section shall be either the statute of limitations for the crime committed against the minor child or five years, whichever is greater.

This legislation will take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation should have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. According to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, since 2017 there have been four cases of Title 23, Section 6319 violations.

PREPARED BY: Jenny P. Stratton
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 16, 2019

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