



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1333

PRINTER'S NO. 3295

PRIME SPONSOR: Dawkins

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: The bill allows for the use of recycled materials in stuffed toys manufactured in Pennsylvania. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

This legislation amends the Stuffed Toy Manufacturing Act to allow recycled materials to be used in stuffed toys so long as the materials are free from dangerous or harmful chemicals or substances and free from oil, dirt, refuse, and other similar substances. All manufacturers using material either inside or any part covering the outside of the stuffed toys that contain products of animal origin must ensure that the material has been properly sterilized by following a process approved by the Department of Labor and Industry (the "Department"). Manufacturers would also be required to obtain a certificate of disinfection from DLI on forms provided by the department.

The bill also provides that the Department has the authority to enforce the Stuffed Toy Manufacturing Act, and an enforcement action for violations of the act or regulations is subject to Title 2 (Administrative Law and Procedure). Any person who violates any provision would be required to pay a fine of between \$300 and \$500 for each offense. These fines are currently in law, but the legislation removes language requiring a prison sentence of between 30 and 60 days for failure to pay the fines.

The legislation requires that each stuffed toy manufactured for sale in the commonwealth have a tag or label securely fixed to the toy that states whether the materials used to manufacture the toy are new, recycled, or a mix of both, as well as the registration number of the manufacturer or importer assigned by the commonwealth. Manufacturers or importers of these toys are prohibited from utilizing child labor, forced labor, or slave labor practices.

Finally, the bill requires the Department to produce an annual report providing details on the manufacturers registered under the law.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation is not expected to have an adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The legislation does not make changes to the penalties for violations of the Stuffed Toy Manufacturing Act. The Department would continue to address violations with current resources.

This fiscal note assumes that the addition of the certification on the tag does not require the department to affirmatively investigate the supply chain of a company to determine if the certification is accurate. If the Department determines that the certification was false, it could use existing enforcement actions available under the act, including suspending sale or confiscation of the toys. However, if the Department was required to ensure that the certification is correct, this effort would involve significant staff time and travel expenses, which would require major investment of additional resources.

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House Appropriations Committee (D)

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