



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2308

PRINTER'S NO. 3129

PRIME SPONSOR: Freeman

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: HB 2308 PN 3129 establishes the Pennsylvania Poet Laureate and the Pennsylvania Poet Laureate Nomination Committee. This legislation will take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would establish the Pennsylvania Poet Laureate and the Pennsylvania Poet Laureate Nomination Committee and provide for their powers and duties.

Pennsylvania Poet Laureate

The Governor would appoint the poet laureate from a list of individuals nominated by the Pennsylvania Poet Laureate Nomination Committee. The poet laureate would serve a two-year term.

Duties of the poet laureate include:

- Give an official reading of a poem at the inauguration of the Governor;
- Give an official reading of a poem at the biannual opening of the legislative session upon request of the President pro tempore of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and
- Serve at official commemorations upon the Governor's request.

Pennsylvania Poet Laureate Nomination Committee – membership would include:

- Secretary of Education or a designee;
- Chair of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts or a designee;
- State Librarian of the State Library of Pennsylvania or a designee;
- Representative from a nonprofit organization, appointed by the Governor; and
- Representative from a college or university department of English in the commonwealth, appointed by the Governor.

Duties of the committee include:

- Determine the qualification of nominees for the poet laureate; and
- Solicit nominations and provide the governor with a list.

The Poet Laureate and the Poet Laureate Nomination Committee members would be required to serve without compensation but would be reimbursed for necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

FISCAL IMPACT: The enactment of this legislation could have a fiscal impact on commonwealth funds, specifically the General Fund. To determine the fiscal impact, we need to consider the committee's make up, the number of meetings per year, and the reimbursement rates related to travel and lodging.

First, the Poet Laureate Nomination Committee would consist of five (5) members. Regarding the reimbursement costs, the total number of committee members can be divided into two groups. One group, consisting of members who are state members (4) and a second group consisting of one member.

For state members travel and lodging costs would be absorbed by their respective state agency.

Costs related to the second group plus the Poet Laureate would have a fiscal impact. The fiscal impact would be a function of the following components:

- Reimbursement per mile - \$0.67
- Lodging cost per meeting - \$98.00
- Subsistence cost per day - \$59.00
- Number of meeting/events – the legislation does not provide for a specific number of meetings

As a result of the unknown number of meetings that the committee would meet or the number of events that the Poet Laureate would commemorate or read, the fiscal impact is indeterminate.

PREPARED BY: Gueorgui Tochev, Budget Analyst
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: June 27, 2024

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