

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 47

PRINTER'S NO. 3776

AMOUNT

\$10,000 - \$14,000 Annual
Costs to the Commonwealth

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 26, 2009

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Curry

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Jan. 26, 2009

Reported as amended, May 7, 2009

First consideration, May 7, 2009

Laid on the table, May 7, 2009

Removed from table, May 11, 2009

Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, May 11, 2009

Re-reported as committed, May 12, 2009

Second consideration, May 12, 2009

Third consideration and final passage, June 1, 2009 (192-0)

In the Senate

Referred to PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, June 4, 2009

Reported as committed, Oct. 2, 2009

First consideration, Oct. 2, 2009

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, Oct. 2, 2009

Re-reported as amended, May 24, 2010

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 47 creates a freestanding act known and cited as the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Education and Prevention Program Act. This legislation specifically mandates the following:

- Requires the Pennsylvania Department of Health (Department) to establish a Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Education and Prevention Program to promote awareness and education relating to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Sudden Unexplained Death in Infants (SUDI) focusing on risk factors of SIDS and SUDI and safe sleeping practices for newborns and infants;

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- Requires the Department to design and implement strategies for raising public awareness concerning SIDS and SUDI including risk factors, including infant sleep position, exposure to smoke, overheating, inappropriate infant bedding, bed sharing and suggestions for reducing the risk of SIDS and SUDI;
- Requires the Department to develop educational and instructional materials that explain the risk factors associated with SIDS and SUDI and emphasize safe sleeping practices;
- Requires the distribution, without cost, of the above mentioned educational and instructional materials by each hospital, birth center or midwife to a parent of each newborn upon discharge from a hospital or birth center; and
- Requires the signing of an "acknowledgment statement" by a parent prior to discharge from a hospital or birth center or after births performed by a midwife in settings other than a hospital or birth center. The "acknowledgment statement" is a form that acknowledges that the parent has received, read and has an understanding of the educational and instructional materials provided on sudden infant death syndrome and sudden unexpected death in infants.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Health's 2007 annual report of vital statistics, the latest data available, there was an average of 145,583 live births in the Commonwealth, annually, from 1998 through 2007. The annual costs of printing and distribution of the educational and instructional materials for this number of newborns is estimated to be \$10,000 - \$14,000. The Department currently prints a brochure, entitled "Reducing the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)" and is available online through the Department's Bureau of Family Health, Division of Child and Adult Health Services. The costs of printing this brochure are currently paid for with federal Maternal and Child Health Services block grant funds. Therefore, the annual costs to the Commonwealth of implementing the requirements of this legislation could be substantially reduced by utilizing the educational and informational materials on SIDS that are currently being distributed by the Department.