

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 2135

PRINTER'S NO. 3603

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

January 20, 2012

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Quinn

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to INSURANCE, Jan. 20, 2012

Reported as amended, May 23, 2012

First consideration, May 23, 2012

Laid on the table, May 23, 2012

Removed from table, June 4, 2012

Second consideration, June 5, 2012

Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, June 5, 2012

Re-reported as committed, June 6, 2012

Third consideration and final passage, June 6, 2012 (194-0)

In the Senate

Referred to BANKING AND INSURANCE, June 11, 2012

Reported as committed, June 20, 2012

First consideration, June 20, 2012

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, June 27, 2012

Re-reported as committed, June 28, 2012

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 2135 establishes the freestanding Portable Electronics Insurance Act.

The bill defines a vendor as a person in the business of engaging in portable electronic transactions that is licensed as a business entity – to maintain an Insurance Department issued limited lines insurance to sell, solicit or negotiate coverage under a policy of portable electronics insurance.

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The bill defines "portable electronics" as personal, self-contained battery-operated electronic communication, viewing, listening, recording, gaming, computing, or global positioning devices that are easily carried by an individual, including a cellular or satellite telephone, pager, personal GPS, portable computer, portable audio listening, video viewing or recording device, digital camera, video camcorder, portable gaming system, docking station; automatic answering device, and any other similar device or accessory.

The bill requires the vendor to maintain a list of locations where it offers coverage.

The bill requires disclosure of the possibility that portable electronics coverage may duplicate coverage already provided in the customer's homeowner's policy; state that the purchase of coverage is not a requirement for purchase of the product, summarize salient terms of the contract and permit cancellation at any time and refund of unearned premium.

The bill permits vendors to bill and collect charges for portable electronics coverage.

The bill establishes termination of policy procedures.

This act shall take effect in 120 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 2135 will have no adverse fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. The additional requirements to the Insurance Department can be absorbed within the department's existing compliment and funding level.