

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 560

PRINTER'S NO. 728

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General

DATE INTRODUCED

March 2, 2011

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Mensch

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to EDUCATION, March 2, 2011
Reported as committed, May 10, 2011
First consideration, May 10, 2011
Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, May 24, 2011
Re-reported as committed, Sept. 26, 2011

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 560 establishes a free-standing act entitled the State Military College Legislative Appointment Initiative Program Act.

The bill provides that each member of the General Assembly may establish a State Military College selection committee to annually appoint, for guaranteed enrollment in the college, a student who is a resident of the member's legislative district. To be eligible for appointment a student must have a high school diploma or general education development diploma, maintain domicile within the Commonwealth during the term of the appointment and comply with the admission requirements of the college and the Early Commissioning Program of the United States Army.

The bill requires the State Ethics Commission to develop guidelines governing the selection committees to ensure that they comply with the Legislative Code of Ethics. Each member that establishes a selection committee must file an annual report with the State Ethics Commission including the names of the members of the selection committee, the names and addresses of the applicants and the name of the applicant who is appointed.

The bill also requires the college to notify legislators when an appointee terminates enrollment and provides that nothing in the act shall be construed to establish a scholarship granted or funded by the Commonwealth.

The bill is scheduled to take effect immediately and is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2016 unless reenacted sooner.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of Senate Bill 560 will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. Costs associated with members of the General Assembly establishing and operating selection committees should be minor and can be accomplished within their offices existing budgets. The advisory and administrative responsibilities placed upon the State Ethics Commission are routine to their operations and can be accomplished within its existing operating budget.