

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 1563

PRINTER NO. 2318

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 7, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Cutler

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1563 amends the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act to modernize confidentiality provisions.

The bill updates the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act by amending Section 8 to further provide for the appropriate sharing of treatment information to covered entities or their business associates strictly for the purposes of treatment, operations and payment. The definition of "covered entity" aligns with federal regulations and includes a health plan, a health care clearinghouse or a health care provider who transmits any health information in electronic form in connection with a transaction.

The bill provides that the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs shall not have the authority to promulgate or enforce a regulation that restricts any disclosure of records or information that is permitted by the provisions of the bill.

This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1563 will have no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth.