

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 1094

PRINTER NO. 1419

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

Motor License Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

February 23, 2022

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Gebhard

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 1094 amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by modernizing the Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MCSAC).

This legislation amends Chapter 78 (Motor Carrier Safety) of Title 75 as follows:

- Section 7802 (relating to findings and declaration of policy) is deleted;
- Section 7803 (relating to definitions) defines “motor carrier safety” as the safe movement of an individual or goods on trafficways that are transported by commercial motor vehicles as defined in Section 1603 (relating to definitions);
- Section 7804 (relating to Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee) increases the number of members from 28 to 30 and changes the membership as follows:
 - 1) Increases the number of representatives of the public from twenty to twenty-two;
 - 2) Reduces the representatives of the Pennsylvania Manufactured Housing Association from two to one;
 - 3) Replaces a member from the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association of Pennsylvania with a member from the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association;
 - 4) Allows a representative from the railroad industry, rather than only a Class I Railroad;
 - 5) Adds a person representing the motor carrier manufacturing industry;
 - 6) Adds five representatives from the transport industry, each representing the following areas:
 - a) Bulk products;
 - b) Moving and storage;
 - c) Petroleum;
 - d) Marcellus Shale gas; and
 - e) Coal.
- Authorizes the President Pro Tempore to fill a position or vacancy if not filled by the appointing authority within 120 days of the vacancy;

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

- Provides that the members of the committee, rather than the Governor, shall annually elect a chairperson;
- Limits a designee only for the ex-officio members;
- Empowers a majority of the members to remove an appointed member for missing four consecutive committee meetings;
- Provides that the secretary shall provide written notice to appointed members who miss three consecutive meetings;
- Modernizes the powers and duties of MCSAC as follows:
 - 1) Study the feasibility of improving highway safety and freight transportation on trafficways and develop a policy periodically on the most pressing issues facing motor carrier safety;
 - 2) Examine and recommend motor carrier safety initiatives for strategic plans of the Department of Transportation (department), the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the Pennsylvania State Police;
 - 3) Advise and comment on all phases of motor carrier safety activities being undertaken or financially assisted by the department and agencies of the Commonwealth;
 - 4) With assistance from the department, provide advice and recommendations to businesses, manufacturers, educational institutions, technology developers, the motor carrier industry, labor communities, and local governments related to motor carrier safety;
 - 5) Develop and maintain a forum for the exchange of ideas, needs, objectives, plans, and accomplishments related to motor carrier safety;
 - 6) Include recommendations in the annual program report; and
 - 7) Distribute the annual program report to the Secretary of Transportation.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the department, committees within the department have been offered virtual participation since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. As a result, the department does not expect an increase in per diem expenses with the addition of two members to the committee.

Therefore, enactment of this legislation will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.