SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 2328

AMOUNT

\$1,395,000,000 Maximum Additional Authorized Debt

DATE INTRODUCED

PRINTER NO. 3602

FUND

Capital Facilities Fund

PRIME SPONSOR

April 10, 2024

Representative Harris

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DESCRIPTION

House Bill 2328 provides for the Capital Budget Act (act) of Fiscal Year 2024-25. The act establishes the maximum bond indebtedness the Commonwealth may incur during the fiscal year for capital projects specifically itemized in a capital budget project itemization act.

This legislation sets the maximum authorizations at the following amounts:

- Public Improvement Projects: \$900,000,000
 Furniture and Equipment Projects: \$20,000,000
 Transportation Assistance Projects: \$175,000,000
- Redevelopment Assistance Projects: \$300,000,000
- Flood Control Projects:

Total: \$1,395,000,000

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This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania limits outstanding capital budget debt to 1.75 times the average tax revenues during the previous five (5) fiscal years. Voter-approved and disaster relief debt are not subject to the constitutional debt limit.

Based on the Auditor General's most recent debt certification (dated August 31, 2024), the average annual tax revenue in all funds over the last five fiscal years was \$50.7 billion. The Commonwealth's net debt as of August 31, 2024, totaled \$9.7 billion. Utilizing the constitutional debt limit formula, the Commonwealth could issue up to an additional \$79 billion as of that date, significantly more than the \$1.395 billion authorized in this bill.