

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 1121

PRINTER NO. 1723

AMOUNT

See Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund Restricted Account

DATE INTRODUCED

April 5, 2024

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Robinson

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 1121 amends Title 12 (Commerce and Trade) to establish the Pennsylvania-Ireland Trade Commission. The commission shall have 11 members consisting of the secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development, six gubernatorial appointees and eight legislative appointees. Gubernatorial appointees shall serve four-year terms, and legislative appointees shall serve two-year terms.

The commission is directed to:

- Advance bilateral trade and investment between Pennsylvania and Ireland,
- Initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Pennsylvania and Ireland,
- Promote business and academic exchanges between Pennsylvania and Ireland,
- Encourage mutual economic support between Pennsylvania and Ireland, and
- Encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Pennsylvania and Ireland.

The commission shall meet quarterly and is authorized to hold hearings within Pennsylvania. The commission shall issue a report to the Governor and General Assembly within one year of the commission's first meeting and subsequent reports by February 1 of each succeeding year.

This legislation is scheduled to take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 1121 provides that members of the Pennsylvania-Ireland Trade Commission shall not be compensated but may be reimbursed for expenses related to performance of their duties within the limit of money appropriated or otherwise made available to the commission. The bill establishes a restricted account within the General Fund to accept funds from public and private sources to defray the administrative expenses of the commission. The bill does not make an appropriation to the restricted account.