



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 945

PRINTER'S NO. 1111

PRIME SPONSOR: Brown

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 945 consolidates the County Code (Act 154 of 2018) Part IV (Counties of the Second Class A through Eighth Class) into Title 16 (Counties) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.

ANALYSIS:

This bill provides that it is to be construed as substantively identical to the County Code. Eight substantive changes are included in this bill:

1. Authorizes the commissioners, with the approval of the appropriate officer and, in the case of the “judicial offices,” the president judge, to provide off-site space for the conduct of business.
2. Clarifies that nothing in the County Code precludes the use of electronic bidding in accordance with Title 62.
3. Removes archaic language related to appropriations to volunteer fire companies in counties of the 7th and 8th classes.
4. Incorporates of Act 7 of 2021, providing for the filling of a vacancy in the office of District Attorney with the first Deputy District Attorney, as conditioned.
5. Amends the county classification provisions consistent with Act 74 of 2021 to provide for a freeze in county classification following the release of the 2020 decennial Census unless a County chooses to change its classification.
6. Incorporates of Act 88 of 2021, requiring the District Attorney to continually hold an active law license, and providing for procedure in the event of disbarment or suspension of license.
7. Makes numerous technical changes to language to more closely conform to the language within the freestanding County Code.
8. Adds CPI-U contracting “escalator” language to the Third Class County Convention Center Authority provisions of the Code, bringing such authorities in line with the bidding limits applicable to counties.

Senate Bill 945 also includes language specifying that aside from these changes, no other substantive changes to the County Code as amended by Act 154 of 2018 are provided in the consolidation.

This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation would have no impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Chris Fetterman, MPA, Special Advisor

House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: April 17, 2024

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.