Department of Planning and Budget
2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB 405

House of Origin	☐	Introduced	☐	Substitute	☐ Engrossed
Second House	☒	In Committee	☐	Substitute	☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Bell, Robert B.

3. **Committee:** Courts of Justice

4. **Title:** Suspected abuse or neglect of a child; reports to law enforcement

5. **Summary:** The proposed legislation requires local department of social services (LDSS) to notify the local attorney for the Commonwealth and local law enforcement agency of specified complaints of suspected child abuse or neglect immediately, but in no case more than within two hours, of the receipt of the complaint. In addition, the LDSS must provide a copy of all its records and information related to the investigation of the complaint. The bill also requires the LDSS to complete a written report on a form, provided by the Board of Social Services, for each case in which a local law-enforcement agency is notified of a case of suspected child abuse or neglect.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary**: No

7. **Minimal Fiscal Impact**: See Item 8

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Office of Family Services in the Department of Social Services reports that the only new requirement this proposal would impose on local social services staff is the bill's provisions associated with completing the required form and obtaining the necessary signatures. The Office asserts that completing the mandated form can be done in a matter of minutes; while the time associated with obtaining the signatures will vary (via fax, face-to-face, etc.) by situation. Based on this assessment, it is assumed that the proposed legislation will not have a fiscal impact.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:**
   Department of Social Services
   Local Departments of Social Services

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** None

11. **Other Comments:** This bill is a companion to SB 332.

Date: 2/12/14