

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1019

House of Origin	<u> X </u>	Introduced	<u> </u>	Substitute	<u> </u>	Engrossed
Second House	<u> </u>	In Committee	<u> </u>	Substitute	<u> </u>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Hugo

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Telecommuting; state agencies to keep savings.

5. Summary: Requires state agencies to retain the unappropriated balance in the general appropriation act realized as a direct result of implementing a telecommuting program within the agency.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see item 8 below.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: N/A

8. Fiscal Implications: (It is assumed that the language in this bill that reads “*unappropriated balance in the general appropriation act realized as a direct result of implementing a telecommuting program within the agency*” means the unexpended appropriation in a specific agency at the end of a fiscal year attributed to savings from the implementation of telecommuting.)

The proposed legislation would require that amounts saved by state agencies as the result of implementing telecommuting would be reappropriated. Currently, the reappropriation of year-end balances is governed exclusively by § 4-1.04 (for nongeneral funds) and § 4-1.05 (for general fund) of the Appropriation Act. This bill would require the reappropriation of these amounts without taking the provisions of these sections of the Appropriation Act into account or whether the budget for the Commonwealth has sufficient revenues to do so.

The magnitude of any savings as a result of telecommuting is not known since there is no way on the current central accounting system of the Commonwealth to identify these savings.. The cost or savings that may result from the implementation of a telecommuting policy will vary by agency depending on the current state of technology in the agency and other factors such as whether or not telecommuting will allow an agency to reduce or eliminate the need for certain “brick and mortar” facilities. As such, the impact on the general fund is indeterminate.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state agencies

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: N/A

11. Other Comments: N/A

Date: 1/17/2008 dpb

Document: G:\FIS Template for 2008.doc

cc: