

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 379

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Pogge, Brenda L.

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Funeral services; alkaline hydrolysis prohibited, penalty

5. Summary: The proposed legislation prohibits any person from offering alkaline hydrolysis, which is the chemical process to dissolve human tissue, human remains, or a dead human body involving heat, high pressure, water, and potassium hydroxide, or an alternative alkaline solution. A violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Indeterminate. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2011), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$29.98 per inmate, per day in FY 2010.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Health Professions
Compensation Board
Local and regional jails

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/16/12

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