Department of Planning and Budget 2025 General Assembly Session State Fiscal Impact Statement

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Bill Number: HB2623 **Patron:** Fowler

Bill Title: Failure of Commonwealth or locality to communicate or cooperate with U.S. Immigration

and Customs Enforcement; waiver of sovereign immunity.

Bill Summary: Provides that when (i) the Commonwealth adopts any rule, regulation, or policy or passes any law or (ii) any locality adopts any ordinance, resolution, or motion that impedes the ability of law-enforcement officers, corrections officers, or jail officers to communicate or cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement about a person in the United States illegally, the Commonwealth or such locality waives sovereign immunity as it relates to any injuries or damages sustained by victims of crimes committed by such person.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No. Items Impacted: N/A

Explanation: See fiscal analysis

Fiscal Summary: The impact of this bill is indeterminate. The state could be liable for civil penalties that are larger than would typically be allowed under sovereign immunity for any lawsuits tied to this legislation.

Fiscal Analysis: According to the Commonwealth's Attorneys Services Council (CASC) and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), there is no anticipated fiscal impact on the agencies' operations as a result of this bill.

According to the Department of Treasury, the impact of this bill is indeterminate. The provisions of the bill affecting sovereign immunity may result in cases continuing beyond the initial stages, and that would potentially increase loss and legal payments.

Other: None.