

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 645

PRINTER NO. 686

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

April 20, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Hughes

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 645 amends Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) to provide for a ten-year limitation for acquiring title to vacant land for gardens in cities of the first class.

This legislation allows for the possessor of a vacant lot to acquire the title if the possessor can show they have had possession for not less than 10 years, they have maintained the land as a garden for not less than five years, they have demonstrated the capacity to maintain the space, the land does not exceed an area of one-half acre and the land shall remain a garden or community garden for not less than five years from the date of acquisition. A possessor who attempts to acquire land under this section must commence a quiet title action and provide notice as required under Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) Section 5527.1 (C)(2), (3) and (D).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 645 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. This legislation will have no fiscal impact on the funds of a city of the first class as the title transfer shall have no change on the collection of property taxes owed on the parcel.