

## 150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL NOTE

BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 100

SPONSOR: Representative Longhurst

DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FREE

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS.** 

## **Assumptions:**

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.

- 2. This Act creates Mental Health Services Units for school districts and charter schools serving students in kindergarten through fifth grade (K-5).
- 3. This Act establishes Mental Health Services Units of state funding as follows:
  - a. 1 unit for each 250 full-time equivalent students in grades K-5 for employment of full-time counselors or social workers.
  - b. 1 unit for each 700 full-time equivalent students in grades K-5 for employment of full-time psychologists.
- 4. Currently, there are approximately 64,380 K-5 students enrolled in Delaware school districts and charter schools.
- 5. Based on current enrollment, this Act will generate 257.54 Mental Health Services Units of funding for full-time counselors or social workers and 91.98 Mental Health Services Units of funding for full-time psychologists.
- 6. The average state unit of funding for Mental Health Services Units for counselors or social workers is estimated to be \$71,547, while the local share of personnel costs is estimated at \$32,127. Other employment costs are assumed at a rate of 32.46%.
- 7. The average state unit of funding for Mental Health Services Units for psychologists is estimated to be \$75,021, while the local share of personnel costs is estimated at \$36,174. Other employment costs are assumed at a rate of 32.46%.
- 8. Overall costs are assumed to increase at an annual rate of 2.0%.

## Cost:

	State Share	Local Share
Fiscal Year 2020:	\$25,833,180	\$11,833,298
Fiscal Year 2021:	\$26,349,844	\$12,069,964
Fiscal Year 2022:	\$26,876,840	\$12,311,363