



**150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 19
SPONSOR: Representative Jaques
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL NURSES.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. Currently, per 14 Del. C. § 1310, a school district or charter school must ensure it has at least one school nurse per facility. However, each school district and charter school receives state funding for school nurses equal to one nurse for each 40 state units of pupils. School districts and charter schools also qualify for partial state funding at a rate of 30% for fractional units.
3. Through the existing formula, some school districts and charter schools do not qualify for more than a fractional nurse unit. When this occurs, school districts and charter schools meet the one school nurse per facility requirement through use of discretionary local funds, state equalization funds, or state academic excellence funds.
4. This Act allows school districts and charter schools to receive the full share of state funding to ensure funds are available for one school nurse per facility.
5. This Act authorizes school districts that receive state funding through this Act to levy a match tax to provide the local portion of funding needed to pay for school nurses.
6. This Act requires the Department of Education to establish an application process for school districts and charter schools to receive funding in fiscal years when funds are appropriated to fulfill the purposes of this Act.
7. Based on 2018-2019 school year data, this Act will generate an additional 11.19 state units of funding for school nurses at an average state cost of \$70,468 per unit, which includes an average annual salary of \$45,182 per nurse, health insurance at \$15,013 per nurse, and other employment costs at a rate of 32.46%.
8. Overall costs are assumed to grow at a rate of 2.0% annually.

Cost: State

Fiscal Year 2020:	\$804,298
Fiscal Year 2021:	\$820,383
Fiscal Year 2022:	\$836,791

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Office of the Controller General