150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 82**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Sturgeon**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 AND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEADLY WEAPONS.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective 6 months upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act creates an application process to obtain a handgun qualified purchaser card, to authorize the purchase of a handgun, or a firearms qualified purchaser card, to authorize the purchase of firearms other than a handgun. This Act then requires licensed importers, manufacturers, or dealers, as well as unlicensed persons, to require an individual to present the individual's handgun qualified purchaser card or firearms qualified purchaser card before selling or transferring a firearm to an individual.
3. The Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Delaware State Police, State Bureau of Identification (SBI) estimates that it would require an expansion of a minimum of 7.0 FTE sworn and 12.0 FTE civilian personnel positions to implement and enforce this Act. The tables below detail the positions identified:

Sworn FTE Position Costs			
Number of FTEs	**Position Title**	**Year 1 Cost**	**Year 2 Cost**
7.0	Delaware State Trooper	$586,796	$673,911
	One-Time Initial Start-Up Operating Costs	$529,648	
	Recurring Operating Costs		$40,012
	Subtotal for Sworn FTE Position Costs	*$1,116,444*	*$713,923*

Civilian FTE Position Costs		
Number of FTEs	**Position Title**	**Total Annual Cost**
5.0	Licensing Specialist	$247,581
4.0	Criminal History Technician II	$189,047
1.0	Application Program Manager	$60,237
1.0	Ten Print Examiner (Senior Forensic Print Examiner)	$66,796
1.0	SBI Supervisor (SBI Criminal Records Manager)	$63,406
	Recurring Operating Costs, $800 for each position	$9,600
	Subtotal for Civilian FTE Position Costs	*$636,667*

- Costs in the tables above include all personnel, health insurance, and other employment costs. An additional one-time operation expense of $2,700 per position, or $51,300 total, is projected for office furniture, technology, software costs, related to the startup for both sworn and civilian positions.

4. The SBI presently does not have suitable workspace available to accommodate the addition of 19.0 FTE positions. Ultimately, the SBI will need to coordinate with the Office of Management and Budget, Division of Facilities Management to identify its needs for additional workspace. For budgeting purposes, it can be reasonable to assume that approximately 4,750 square feet in leased office space may be needed to house these 19.0 FTE positions based on an estimate of 250 square feet of space needed per employee. Using an estimated price of $20.00 per square foot, a monthly lease obligation could be approximately $95,000 per month or $1,140,000 per year.

5. This Act will also result in additional revenue. The present fee for a state and federal criminal background check is $65, however approximately $13 of that fee is paid as a processing fee to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The remaining $52 is held in an Appropriated Special Fund (ASF) account that is applied towards some existing ASF positions, Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) equipment, training, and other internal business needs of SBI. It is difficult to determine just exactly how much of this new additional revenue would offset the position needs identified by SBI because of the uncertainty surrounding how many individuals would apply to SBI for a handgun or firearms qualified purchaser card. A recent number of handguns and/or firearms purchases in Delaware are indeterminable. Lastly, any additional revenue collected would not occur until after the implementation of this Act and the hiring of the FTE positions.

6. This Act would require the Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS) to make significant programming and system modifications to the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) to ensure compliance. DELJIS will require specialized contractual staff to make coding changes and estimates it would require one-time funding of $150,000 to complete these updates. In addition, DELJIS believes it would require 1.0 FTE Information System Auditor and 1.0 FTE Senior Application Support Specialist to address ongoing maintenance programming, fixing, testing, auditing, and other post-implementation issues surrounding data integrity and continued coordination with the SBI after the implementation of this Act.

    - The annual cost for 1.0 FTE Information System Auditor is $81,835, and for 1.0 FTE Senior Application Support Specialist is $96,696. This includes salary, health insurance, other employment costs, as well as projected recurring operating expenses.
    - An additional one-time operating expense of $2,700 per position, or $5,400 total, is projected for technology, software, and furniture costs related to the startup of these positions.

7. The Superior Court will be required to hear cases within 15 days after the receipt of an application by an individual who has been denied or had a revocation of a handgun qualified purchaser card or firearms qualified purchaser card. The Superior Court has identified a need for 4.0 FTE Paralegal III's to handle the creation, docketing, and review of a filing, in addition to the research, scheduling, and issuance of proper notice in order for an individual to have a meaningful hearing.

    - The annual cost for 4.0 FTE Paralegal III's is $327,340. This includes salary, health insurance, other employment costs, as well as projected recurring operating expenses.
    - An additional one-time operating expense of $3,000 per position, or $12,000 total, is projected for technology, software, licensing fees, and furniture costs related to the startup of these positions.

8. Finally, it is assumed that if other legislation is passed requiring system reprogramming changes and additional FTE positions, that savings and efficiencies could be realized, thereby reducing the costs associated with this Act and other legislation affecting any or all of the agencies mentioned above.

Cost:

	Operating/Recurring		One-Time
Fiscal Year 2020:	$1,434,667	(6 months)	$748,348
Fiscal Year 2021:	$2,996,461		
Fiscal Year 2022:	$2,996,461		

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