



**150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL: SENATE BILL NO. 203
SPONSOR: Senator Wilson
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN HOMESCHOOLS.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act makes children with disabilities who attend homeschools eligible to receive speech language pathology and audiology services in the same manner as students who attend private schools.
3. Per the Delaware Department of Education's 2019-2020 Enrollment Report, there are 3,091 homeschool students in Delaware.
4. Per the 2018-2019 Delaware IDEA Child Count and Educational Environment for Students Ages 3-21 reports, there are 2,510 students identified with a speech or language impairment in school districts and charter schools in Delaware. This represents approximately 1.8% of the total student population (139,148) in Delaware for the same year. By applying this percentage to the homeschool population, there are approximately 56 students who would become eligible for services under this Act.
5. Currently, speech language pathology and audiology services provided to private school students are paid for through federal funds. Per the Delaware Department of Education, further research is necessary to determine if federal funding can also be used to accommodate the homeschool students eligible for services under this Act.
6. State and local funding for services associated with this Act cannot be determined as all related services funding is generated at the school district and charter school level through the annual unit and enrollment count, which is not inclusive of home school students.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2021: Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2022: Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2023: Indeterminable

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Office of the Controller General