**151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
**FISCAL NOTE**

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| **BILL:** | **HOUSE BILL NO. 54** |
| **SPONSOR:** | **Representative Chukwuocha** |
| **DESCRIPTION:** | **AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO OPTIONAL MID-YEAR UNIT COUNT.** |

## Assumptions:

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

2. This Act allows for an optional mid-year unit count on the last school day of January for school districts and charter schools that experience enrollment and/or needs-based category growth during the school year, after the last school day in September unit count has been verified.

3. This Act requires the Delaware Department of Education to annually certify and report the optional mid-year unit count and develop rules and regulations for implementation.

4. This Act specifies that the optional mid-year unit count will not reduce or rescind units or funding previously earned or allocated through the September unit count.

5. Additional units generated by the optional mid-year unit count shall qualify for state funding equivalent to the daily rate of a Class A substitute teacher ($116), inclusive of other employment costs (9.31%), for the remaining days of the school year, up to a maximum of 90 days. This calculation generates a state cost per unit of $11,412.

6. The Department of Education conducted an uncertified estimate of enrollment and unit count increases in the 2019-2020 school year on January 31, 2020. This estimate indicated approximately 120 new units would be generated under the provisions of this Act. It is assumed that 120 units will be the annual average number of units generated under the provisions of this Act.

7. In order to implement a second certified unit count as required by this Act, the Delaware Department of Education will incur additional one-time, technology-related costs associated with programming of the unit count system. The Department of Education estimates these one-time costs at $30,000.

8. Costs are assumed to increase at a rate of 2% annually.

## Cost:

| | On-going Costs | One-time Costs |
|---|---|---|
| **Fiscal Year 2022:** | $1,369,440 | $30,000 |
| **Fiscal Year 2023:** | $1,396,829 | |
| **Fiscal Year 2024:** | $1,424,765 | |

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