



151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL: SENATE BILL NO. 136
SPONSOR: Senator Sturgeon
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14, TITLE 16, TITLE 29, AND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act transfers responsibility for the Infants and Toddlers Early Intervention Program from the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to the Department of Education (DOE) on July 1, 2023.
3. This Act also aligns Delaware Code with the federal infants and toddlers program, requires the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) to hold at least one joint meeting each calendar year with the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC), and the GACEC to hold at least one joint meeting each calendar year with the ICC. It requires early intervention service providers to receive the same child abuse and child safety awareness, prevention, detection, and reporting training as school employees. Additionally, early intervention providers would also be required to receive the same background checks as other child-serving entities.
4. Per DHSS, 44.0 FTEs, 8.0 casual/seasonal positions and 37.0 contractors funded through various state and federal funding sources would need to be transferred from DHSS to DOE for the administration of the Infants and Toddlers Early Intervention Program. While there is an anticipated cost increase associated with moving these positions and contractors from DHSS to DOE, until further details on payscale movements and salary agreements are available, these costs are indeterminable.
5. Per DOE, 1.0 FTE and associated funding of \$155,400 is needed to support the planning and transition of the program from DHSS to DOE. As planning for the transition progresses additional costs may be identified.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2022: \$155,400
Fiscal Year 2023: \$155,400 (additional costs are indeterminable)
Fiscal Year 2024: \$155,400 (additional costs are indeterminable)

Note: The proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Act includes 1.0 FTE and associated funding for purposes of this Act.

Prepared by Nicole Polite
Office of the Controller General