



**151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL:	SENATE BILL NO. 270
SPONSOR:	Senator Hansen
DESCRIPTION:	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act requires the following:
 - a. By January 1, 2024, the Department of Education shall develop a facilities evaluation instrument which shall be used to determine if a school facility is in good repair. The tool shall be designed to identify areas of a school site that are in need of repair based upon a thorough inspection of the site.
 - b. By May 1 of each year, the superintendent of each local school district must provide a facility inspection finding and a board-approved maintenance and repair plan.
 - c. By January 1, 2024, the Division of Public Health shall establish a routine indoor-air quality monitoring program and reporting requirements for local boards of education.
 - d. By May 1, 2025, local boards of education must be in full compliance with their routine indoor-air quality monitoring program.
3. Per the Delaware Department of Education, the cost to develop a facilities evaluation instrument and associated technology is estimated at approximately \$150,000 (one-time).
4. Per the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, development of an indoor-air quality monitoring program and assistance to school districts in the implementation and ongoing needs associated with the program would require 3.0 Environmental Scientists and 1.0 Administrative Specialist II, at a cost of approximately \$307,000 annually. The Department also anticipates an initial one-time cost of \$5,600 for start-up computers and equipment.
5. Per the Delaware Department of Education, the total square footage for restructured districts is 19.7 million square feet. Charter schools are not included in these calculations. Initial estimates indicate that an indoor-air quality inspection would cost approximately \$1.00 per square foot.
 - a. It is assumed that the initial facilities assessment and indoor-air quality monitoring would be completed in Fiscal Year 2025.
 - b. It is assumed that the assessments would need to be completed every three to five years to ensure plans are updated as necessary. Therefore, the year one cost assumes assessments would be completed at all schools with assessment completed on a five-year rolling basis thereafter.
 - c. It is assumed that costs will be shared by state and local funds at a rate of 60% state and 40% local funds, in accordance with 29 Del. C. 7528, regarding minor capital improvements.
 - d. Costs are estimated with an inflation factor of 2% above current years costs.

Cost:

	State Costs	Local Costs
Fiscal Year 2023:	Not applicable	
Fiscal Year 2024:	\$307,000 (ongoing); \$155,600 (one-time)	
Fiscal Year 2025:	\$12,856,619	\$8,362,319

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Office of the Controller General