

BILL: SENATE SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO SENATE BILL NO. 143

SPONSOR: Senator Mantzavinos

DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO INCOME

TAX CREDITS.

## **Assumptions:**

- 1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor. Upon signature, this Act applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.
- 2. This Act creates a nonrefundable individual income tax credit for qualified expenses incurred by a family caregiver to assist a qualified family member, limited to the following:
  - a. No credits can be claimed by a claimant whose income exceeds \$75,000 if the claimant is single or married and files separately, or \$150,000 if the claimant is married and files jointly.
  - b. Credits are limited to 50% of the claimant's qualified expenses.
  - c. The maximum credit that may be claimed each year for a family member is \$2,000, or if a claimant is married and filing a separate return, \$1,000.
- 3. A "qualified family member" is defined in the Act as an individual for whom all of the following apply:
  - a. The individual is at least 62 years of age during the taxable year.
  - b. The individual requires assistance with two or more activities of daily living.
  - c. The individual is the claimant's immediate family member, great-grandparent, step-grandparent, great uncle or great aunt, half-sibling, stepsibling, stepparent, step-uncle or step-aunt, or first cousin.
- 4. The following demographic data provides an estimate of the number eligible caregivers under this Act:
  - a. According to a 2015 AARP Public Policy Institute Report, there are approximately 123,000 family caregivers in Delaware. However, 2021 AARP data indicates there are approximately 48 million caregivers nationwide, which generates a current estimate for Delaware caregivers of approximately 140,000.
  - b. Approximately 77% of caregivers in the U.S. are providing care for individuals 65 and over (2020 report from National Alliance for Caregiving and AARP).
  - c. Approximately 78% of caregivers report having out-of-pocket expenses as a result of caregiving. (2021 AARP report "Caregiving Out-Of-Pocket Costs Study").
  - d. Based on the above, there are 84,084 caregivers in Delaware that have out-of-pocket expenses for care for individuals over the age of 65.
- 5. The average annual caregiver out of pocket expense is \$7,242. (2021 AARP report), so it is assumed all caregivers are eligible for the full \$1,000/\$2,000 credit.
- 6. Based on 2018 tax data and accounting for filing status, about \$350 million in nonrefundable credits could be claimed by all taxpayers with taxable income under the means test. Assuming 8.7% of those individuals are providing eligible care and have out-of-pocket expenses, the estimated annual revenue loss would be \$30.4 million. The cost would be higher to the extent that any caregivers are providing care for more than one individual.

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7. It is assumed that state revenue loss will begin in Fiscal Year 2024.

## **Estimated General Fund Revenue Loss:**

Fiscal Year 2023: Not applicable Fiscal Year 2024: \$30.4 million Fiscal Year 2025: \$30.4 million

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