

151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL NOTE

BILL: SPONSOR:

SENATE BILL NO. 290

Senator Poore

DESCRIPTION:

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AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ADULT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN SCHOOLS.

Assumptions:

- 1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor. Upon signature, this Act takes effect for the 2023-2024 school year.
- 2. This Act expands the education and curriculum requirements of Erin's Law (which includes educational programming related to personal body safety, sexual abuse, and other forms of child abuse) by changing the range of grades that Erin's Law applies to from Pre-K to Grade 6, to Pre-K to Grade 12. This Act further expands Erin's Law by requiring training for school employees on the prevention of inappropriate sexual misconduct, the establishment of appropriate adult and student interactions, and the warning signs of suspected adult sexual misconduct including grooming.
- 3. The Child Protection Accountability Commission and the Division of Family Services of the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families are required to develop and maintain the curriculum outlined in this Act.
- 4. In order to implement the increased education and curriculum requirements of this Act, the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) will require additional staffing to support the Child Protection Accountability Commission. The OCA estimates the need for 1.0 FTE, Trainer/Educator III and associated annual personnel costs, including other employment costs, of \$80,528.
- 5. The Department of Education currently provides funding to local education agencies (LEAs) to assist in the training requirements of Erin's Law. Upon implementation, the Department of Education estimates the need for approximately \$127,500 in additional funds to support the expanded training requirements at LEAs.
- 6. Costs are assumed to increase at a rate of 2% annually.

<u>Cost:</u>

Fiscal Year 2023:	\$208,028
Fiscal Year 2024:	\$212,188
Fiscal Year 2025:	\$216,432

Prepared by Ruth Ann Jones Office of the Controller General