151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 326**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Walsh**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO IMPROVING LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY OR DISABILITIES.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act requires certain State agencies and programs to submit semi-annual reports to the General Assembly identifying steps taken to comply with federal and State laws and regulations to provide access to individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) and effective communication for individuals with disabilities.
3. This Act also requires that the Department of Justice (DOJ) provide interpretation and translation services or other auxiliary aids to assist individuals with LEP or disabilities to better understand and participate in matters related to manufactured housing leases and evictions, residential leases and evictions, and residential home purchase and foreclosure.
4. It is assumed that each of the impacted state agencies would require an amount of contractual funding for system enhancements to comply with being able to provide meaningful data as required by this Act. This may also require additional FTE positions among certain impacted agencies that may have to manually pull data from their systems to analyze and generate reports for compliance. Since none of this data is housed in a unified or comprehensive system, it is assumed that each impacted agency may have different needs or estimated costs from their vendors.
5. The DOJ would need to contract with an interpretation, translation, and auxiliary aid services provider(s) to comply with this Act. An estimate for these services is indeterminable as the total number of individuals who may need this kind of assistance in the future is unknown.
6. The costs of contractual system enhancements can be high and largely depend upon the required scope or level of effort. Generally, it is assumed that information technology system enhancements can range from $10,000 to $250,000 or higher. At the time of this fiscal projection issuance, the impacted agencies continue working with their respective information technology teams and vendors to determine an accurate fiscal projection. For this reason, factoring in the number of affected agencies by this Act and the expected information technology costs, the projected costs are indeterminable and assumed significant.

Cost:

	Operating/Recurring
Fiscal Year 2023:	Indeterminable, Assumed Significant
Fiscal Year 2024:	Indeterminable, Assumed Significant
Fiscal Year 2025:	Indeterminable, Assumed Significant

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Office of the Controller General