



**152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL NOTE**

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<b>BILL:</b>	<b>SENATE SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 FOR SENATE BILL NO. 2</b>
<b>SPONSOR:</b>	<b>Senator Lockman</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11, TITLE 24, AND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEADLY WEAPONS.</b>

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**Assumptions:**

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act, within eighteen months of enactment, creates an application process to obtain a handgun-qualified purchaser permit to authorize the purchase of a handgun valid for one year from the date of issuance. Additionally, it requires the Department of Safety and Homeland Security (DSHS) to develop and administer a firearm training voucher program for low-income residents to cover the costs of the firearms training course.
3. Delaware State Police (DSP), State Bureau of Identification (SBI) projects that upon enactment, the average workload will increase to 84,750 applications (including fingerprinting and criminal histories) annually.
4. This Act expands upon the duties and responsibilities of the SBI, and it is assumed that the implementation and start-up of this program will occur over the next two fiscal years. The SBI estimates that implementing and enforcing this Act would require an expansion of 28.0 FTE civilian and 10.0 FTE sworn personnel positions over Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025.
  - a. Year One (Fiscal Year 2024)
    - i. Recurring Costs – \$1,045,467
      1. \$763,867 in the Fiscal Year 2024 personnel costs (9 months of funding), including OECs (at a rate of 31.83% for the civilian personnel and at a rate of 32.81% for sworn personnel), for 2.0 FTE, DSP Sergeant; 1.0 FTE, Assistant Director; 1.0 FTE, Forensic Fingerprint Technician Supervisor; 5.0 FTE, Intelligence Analyst; and 1.0 FTE, Telecommunications/Network Technician III.
      2. \$266,000 for the estimated rent for a larger facility to house the new positions.
      3. \$15,600 estimated additional costs associated with high-speed fiber optic needs.
    - ii. One-Time Costs – \$1,523,600
      1. \$76,000 in supplies for equipment, computers, office furniture, and other supply startup costs for 8.0 FTE civilian positions.
      2. \$157,600 for vehicles, vehicle-related equipment, radios, mobile data computer, outfitting, and startup costs for 2.0 FTE sworn positions.
      3. \$1,250,000 for software, server hardware/licensing, and security/access control/cabling needs associated with the startup of this program and additional facility space.
      4. \$40,000 for additional network switches to accommodate the added positions.

- b. Year Two (Fiscal Year 2025)
  - i. Recurring Costs – \$6,781,703
    - 1. \$3,010,103 in the Fiscal Year 2025 personnel costs, including OECs (at a rate of 31.83% for the civilian personnel and at a rate of 32.81% for sworn personnel), for 12 months of funding for positions provided in year one plus nine months of funding for 8.0 FTE, DSP Trooper; 2.0 FTE, Senior Forensic Print Examiner; 2.0 FTE, Forensic Fingerprint Technician; 15.0 FTE, Intelligence Analyst; and 1.0 FTE, Equipment Mechanic.
    - 2. \$266,000 for the estimated rent for a larger facility to house the new positions.
    - 3. \$15,600 estimated additional costs associated with high-speed fiber optic needs.
    - 4. \$80,000 estimated for associated annual vehicle maintenance and fuel costs.
    - 5. \$1,715,000 estimated for the costs associated with issuing vouchers for low-income residents for the cost of a training course, assuming an average cost of \$175 per course and that approximately 9,800 low-income individuals may qualify for the program under the provisions of this Act.
    - 6. \$1,695,000 estimated for associated costs that may be assessed by a vendor for the filing of an application, assuming there are 84,750 applications annually.
  - ii. One-Time Costs – \$836,808
    - 1. \$193,800 in supplies for equipment, computers, office furniture, and other supply startup costs for 20.0 FTE civilian positions.
    - 2. \$643,008 for vehicles, vehicle-related equipment, radios, mobile data computer, outfitting, and startup costs for 8.0 FTE sworn positions.
- 5. This Act will require the Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS) to make significant programming and system modifications to the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) to ensure compliance.
  - a. Year One (Fiscal Year 2024)
    - i. One-Time Costs – \$221,875 estimated for specialized contractual staff to make coding changes to complete necessary system integration and other related system enhancements.
  - b. Year Two (Fiscal Year 2025)
    - i. Recurring Costs – \$55,182 in Fiscal Year 2025 Personnel Costs (9 months of funding), including OECs (at a rate of 31.83%) for 1.0 FTE, Information Systems Auditor position to address ongoing maintenance, programming, fixing, testing, auditing, and other post-implementation issues surrounding data integrity and continued coordination with the SBI upon implementing this Act.
    - ii. One-Time Costs – \$3,000 for the new position’s computer equipment and office furniture startup costs.
- 6. A person aggrieved by the denial or revocation of a permit may request a hearing in the Justice of the Peace Court (“JP Court”) within 30 days. The JP Court must hold a hearing within 21 days of receiving the application. A JP Court decision may be appealed to the Superior Court within 15 days. Superior Court may have additional resource needs in future years should appeals from the JP Court become burdensome.
  - a. Year One (Fiscal Year 2024)
    - i. One-Time Costs – \$30,000 estimated for system changes to track and manage the appeals.

b. Year Two (Fiscal Year 2025)

- i. Recurring Costs – \$141,589 in Fiscal Year 2025 Personnel Costs (9 months of funding), including OECs (at a rate of 31.83%) for 1.0 FTE, Magistrate – JP Court – 1<sup>st</sup> Term; and 1.0 FTE, Judicial Case Processor III position to handle the creation, docketing, and review of a filing, as well as research, scheduling, and issuing proper notices as required.
- ii. One-Time Costs – \$6,000 for the new positions’ computer equipment and office furniture startup costs.

7. Lastly, a 2% inflation cost has been included for projected increases in salary, health insurance, and OECs in future years.

**Cost:**

	<b><u>One-Time</u></b>	<b><u>Operating/Recurring</u></b>
<b>Fiscal Year 2024:</b>	\$1,775,475	\$1,045,467
<b>Fiscal Year 2025:</b>	\$845,808	\$6,978,474
<b>Fiscal Year 2026:</b>		\$7,779,736

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