152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 187**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Sturgeon**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.

2. This Act relates to educators receiving credit on the salary scale for Master's degrees and Doctoral degrees as follows:
   a) Educators hired after the effective date of this Act who earned a Master's degree or Doctoral degree before their date of hire must receive credit for the degree regardless of the subject matter.
   b) Educators who earn a Master's degree or Doctoral degree after their date of hire may only receive credit for the degree if it is related to an area or specialty in which they are employed.

3. Per the Department of Education, there are approximately 3,434 educators categorized on the salary scale as having less than a Master's degree or Doctoral degree, and approximately 6,674 educators categorized as having a Master's degree or Doctoral degree.

4. The State share of the salary and other employment costs for an educator with a Bachelor's degree at step no. 1 is $44,427 and the Local share is $19,040. The State share of the salary and other employment costs for an educator with a Master's degree at step no. 1 is $50,384 and the Local share is $21,593. The salary difference between a Bachelor's degree at step no. 1 and a Master's degree at step no. 1 is a State cost of $5,957 and a Local cost of $2,553.

5. The State share of the salary and other employment costs for an educator with a Doctoral degree at step no. 1 is $57,198 and the Local share is $24,513. The salary difference between a Master's degree at step no. 1 and a Doctoral degree at step no. 1 is a State cost of $6,813 and a Local cost of $2,920.

6. Because there is not sufficient data available about educators who have degrees that do not currently qualify for a credit on the salary schedule, the fiscal impact is indeterminable.

Cost:
Fiscal Year 2024: Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2025: Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2026: Indeterminable

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