149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**HOUSE BILL NO. 140**
SPONSOR:	**Representative M. Smith**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO INFANTS WITH PRENATAL SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act shall take effect upon signature by the Governor.

2. This Act seeks to codify certain sections of the federal law known as the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) that requires States to have policies and procedures in place to address the needs of infants born with and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure, or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, including a requirement that healthcare providers involved in the delivery of care of such infants notify the child protective services system.

3. This Act requires the development of a Plan of Safe Care for these infants to be completed by the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families, Division of Family Services. A Plan of Safe Care is a multidisciplinary plan for coordinated family services to ensure the safety and well-being of the substance exposed infant.

4. The Division of Family Services anticipates handling 130-150 families per year to develop, implement and monitor a Plan of Safe Care once accepted for investigation.

5. Based on this assumption and to remain compliant with regulated case load requirements, it is projected that the Division will need 4.0 full-time, contracted case workers in addition to a 0.5 supervisory position.

6. The estimated State agency cost for the 4.0 contracted case worker staff and the 0.5 supervisory position is $285,000 (estimate includes salary, other employment costs (OEC's), administrative and training costs).

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2018:	$285,000
Fiscal Year 2019:	$285,000
Fiscal Year 2020:	$285,000

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