149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 126**
AS AMENDED BY:	
SPONSOR:	**Senator Lopez**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE BASIC SALARY SCHEDULE FOR TEACHERS, NURSES, PRINCIPALS, SUPERINTENDENTS, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective Fiscal Year 2018

2. This Act provides school-based speech-language pathologists and audiologists who hold a current Certificate of Clinical Competence in speech-language pathology, ("CCC-SLP") or audiology ("CCC-A") issued by the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association and who hold a current state license to practice from the Delaware Board of Speech Pathologists, Audiologists and Hearing Aid Dispensers with a base salary level of Master's Plus 30 credits

3. This Act allows speech language pathologists and audiologists who have completed the course work required by state guidelines to apply for an additional 15 credits to move to the Master's Plus 45 level.

4. This Act contains a grandfather clause that allows school-based speech-language pathologists and audiologists in Delaware who have a master's degree, a current license, and have worked as a speech-language pathologist for 20 or more years but do not have Certificate of Clinical Competence to, be granted the equivalent pay grade of Master's Plus 30 with the same additional coursework criteria for moving to Master's Plus 45 level.

5. Fiscal impact estimates the salary and benefit cost of 57 Master's level speech-language pathologists and audiologist as of March 1, 2017, as provided by Title 14 Del. C. §1305(a), 10 month educator pay salary schedules for FY 2017.

6. The total cost of salary and benefits for qualifying speech-language pathologists and audiologist with less than a Master's Plus 30 level is $4.132 million. This Act would allow these positions to be granted Master's Plus 30 level salary, the equivalent years of service at a total estimated cost of $4.311 million.

7. Assumes no cost of living increases in fiscal years 2018-2020.

Estimated Cost:

Fiscal Year 2018: $179,000
Fiscal Year 2019: $179,000
Fiscal Year 2020: $179,000

Prepared by Art Jenkins
Office of the Controller General