152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE *REVISED*

BILL:	**HOUSE SUBSTITUTE NO. 2 TO HOUSE BILL NO. 55**
SPONSOR:	**Representative Phillips**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6 AND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE HOMELESS.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act is effective upon enactment; however, it is to be implemented the earlier of one year from the date of enactment or notice by the Chair of the Human and Civil Rights Commission that the required regulations have been promulgated.

2. This Act creates a "Homeless Individuals Bill of Rights," providing for the protection for individuals experiencing homelessness from discrimination while in public places, while seeking access to housing, employment, or temporary shelter.

3. The Act empowers the Department of State, Division of Human and Civil Rights and the State Human and Civil Rights Commission authority to investigate and enforce the Bill of Rights.

4. The fiscal note to HS 1 to HB 55 projected the need for 1.0 FTE Human Relations Representative for the Division of Human and Civil Rights. This position was included in the Fiscal Year 2024 operating budget and allocated to the division. However, the Department of State reports the need for additional contractual support for outreach and communication efforts. These costs are estimated at $25,000 annually.

5. The Department of Justice has estimated the need for additional staffing to accommodate representation of the Human and Civil Rights Commission and the prosecution of complaints of homeless discrimination under this Act. The Department of Justice estimates it will require 1.0 FTE Deputy Attorney General V to implement the provisions of this Act. The Fiscal Year 2026 personnel costs (6 months funding) are estimated at $95,110, including other employment costs at a rate of 32.94%, and one-time costs associated with the position are estimated at $6,670.

6. Future year personnel costs are assumed to increase at a rate of 2% annually.

Cost:

	Ongoing	One-time
Fiscal Year 2025:	$ 25,000	
Fiscal Year 2026:	$120,110	$6,670
Fiscal Year 2027:	$219,024	

Prepared by Robert Scoglietti
Office of the Controller General