153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**HOUSE BILL NO. 15**
SPONSOR:	**Representative S. Moore**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PLAY-BASED LEARNING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.**

Assumptions:

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

2. This Act permits early childhood educators in public schools to use and encourage play-based learning in Pre-Kindergarten through 3rd grade. This Act also allows Local Education Agencies to offer professional development in play-based learning for early childhood educators and permits the Department of Education to develop regulations on the subject.

3. According to the Department of Education, there are 3,947 educators in Pre-K – 3rd grade classrooms. The exact number of educators that will use play-based learning and would need appropriate professional development is unknown.

4. According to the Department of Education, the professional development includes:
    a) One online 'play-based approach to learning' professional development at a local cost of $80 - $310 per educator, depending on the entity offering the training and level of depth.
    b) Four after school Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) on play-based learning with locally funded Extra Pay For Extra Responsibility (EPER) pay at a rate of $750 per educator.
    c) Two full-day Professional Development days for integrating the play-based approach into high quality instructional practice.
        i. It is assumed that a Class A Substitute may need to be hired while educators are attending Professional Development days. The current rate for a Class A substitute is $179.00 per day
        ii. According to the Department of Education, facilitated sessions statewide for the Professional Development days are estimated to cost $200,000.

5. All costs are assumed to be paid through local funds. These costs are likely to fluctuate depending on individual implementation.

6. The exact number of schools and educators that will use play-based learning is unknown. Additionally, existing Professional Development days may be able to accommodate professional development sessions for play-based learning. Accordingly, the exact costs of professional development and training are indeterminable.

Cost:

	Local School Costs
Fiscal Year 2026:	Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2027:	Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2028:	Indeterminable

Prepared by Kiley Thomson
Office of the Controller General