153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**HOUSE BILL NO. 302**
SPONSOR:	**Representative Ortega**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LANGUAGE ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT WEBSITES.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act become effective upon signature of the Governor.

2. This Act requires that all State government websites be accessible in any language spoken by .5% of the overall population within the State, as measured by the most recent United States Census. Other provisions of this Act relevant to the fiscal projection include:
    a. Must be free of charge to the user.
    b. Machine translated websites must include a disclaimer that translation services are not guaranteed for accuracy.
    c. Requires the Government Information Center to establish minimum standards for translated websites within 6 months of the Act's enactment into law. All other provisions of this Act must be implemented no later than 2 years after its enactment into law.

3. According to the most recent United States Census, American Community Survey (ACS), the languages that are spoken by .5% or more of the overall population within the State include English, Spanish, French, Chinese, German and West African.

4. The Department of State, Government Information Center (GIC) estimates that the number of websites managed by various state agencies is around 1000. Of the 1000, the GIC manages approximately 140 websites. The Department of Technology and Information (DTI) manages approximately 65 websites, and over 300 dynamic websites/applications, 80 of which would be impacted by this legislation. The General Assembly manages 4 websites. The General Assembly assumes that Delaware Code and Regulations would not be translated due to potential misinterpretation of specialized legal writing. At the time of this fiscal projection, the full fiscal impact of agencies with websites not managed by GIC or DTI is still being determined.

5. The GIC anticipates the need for additional funds to comply with the provisions of this Act including:
    a. One-Time Costs of approximately $200,000 - $500,000 depending on what type of model is utilized for translation. This includes software, development hours, design and accessibility hours, training and support resources, and project management hours.
    b. Recurring Costs of approximately $150,000 - $400,000 for licensing and maintenance.

6. DTI anticipates the need for additional funds to comply with the provisions of this Act including:
    a. One-Time Costs of approximately $6,180,000 which includes costs to develop, and re-write applications to support the language application functionality.
    b. Recurring Costs of approximately $113,770 for licensing and maintenance.

7. The General Assembly anticipates the need for additional funds to comply with the provisions of this Act including:
    a. One-Time Costs of approximately $72,140 for development and implementation.
    b. Recurring Costs of approximately $23,424 for licensing and maintenance.

8. The Department of Education anticipates the need for additional funds to comply with the provisions of this Act including:
    a. Recurring costs of $10,000 for implementation, software, licensing, and maintenance.

9. Recurring costs are assumed to increase at a rate of 5%-10% annually.

Cost:

	One-Time Costs	**Recurring Costs**
Fiscal Year 2026:	$6,263,852-$6,752,140	$297,194-$637,194
Fiscal Year 2027:		$312,053-$700,913
Fiscal Year 2028:		$327,656-$770,994

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Office of the Controller General