153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**HOUSE SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 for HOUSE BILL NO. 70**
SPONSOR:	**Representative Harris**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 16 AND 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LEAD-BASED PAINT.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon the Governor's signature. Following signature, this Act will be implemented the earlier of six months following enactment or following notice by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) that final regulations have been adopted.

2. This Act establishes the Lead-based Paint Hazard Control Grant and Loan Program. The Act will require all rental units constructed before January 1, 1978, to include a disclosure as to whether the rental unit has been certified as lead-free or lead-safe by a specific deadline. Lead inspectors must be approved by the State to conduct inspections and, if necessary, lead abatement and remediation.

3. The DHSS' Division of Public Health (DPH) will be responsible for the oversight and administration of the Lead-based Paint Hazard Control Grant and Loan Program. As such, the DPH is assumed to need resources to create a program as follows:
    a. Five (5) additional positions: a 1.0 FTE Public Health Treatment Administrator, 1.0 FTE Management Analyst III, 1.0 FTE Fiscal Manager, 1.0 FTE Fiscal Associate, and a 1.0 FTE Administrative Specialist II. However, per DHSS, the necessary positions will be identified and reclassified from existing, vacant positions, and no further FTEs or personnel funding will need to be authorized.
    b. $38,840 in annual operations funding is estimated to cover Fleet vehicle costs and travel expenses of the newly dedicated program staff. First-year costs are assumed for six (6) months of funding following implementation.

4. This Act also requires the DPH to establish and administer a lead-based hazard control grant and loan program to assist small property owners with the cost of obtaining the required certificate, complying with remediation or abatement, and/or paying for alternative housing when required. Estimated costs are as follows:
    a. $5,000,000 in annual funding to provide grant and loan funding.
    b. $350,000 in one-time start-up costs to develop and implement a database and tracking system to monitor remediation and abatement activities.
    c. $15,000 in annual maintenance and licensing costs of the database and tracking system.

Cost:

	One-Time	**Ongoing (General Fund)**
Fiscal Year 2026:	$350,000	$5,019,420
Fiscal Year 2027:		$5,053,840
Fiscal Year 2028:		$5,053,840

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Office of the Controller General