153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE
REVISED

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 27**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Brown**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF NEW AMERICANS.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act establishes the Office of New Americans (the "Office") within the Department of State (the "Department"). The Office is responsible for responding to inquiries related to immigration, serving as an information clearinghouse for State agencies, analyzing economic and demographic trends affecting immigrants, disseminating information on services and opportunities for new and prospective immigrant residents, supporting language-access efforts, advising policymakers on legislation affecting immigrants, coordinating with the Office of Immigration Assistance in the Department of Justice, and staffing and administering the Advisory Committee created by this Act.
3. This Act requires the Secretary of State to appoint a Director for the Office. Section 133 of the Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Act directed the Department to identify and appoint 1.0 FTE vacant position to be dedicated to addressing immigrant issues in Delaware.
   a. In October 2025, the Department received approval, pursuant to Section 11 of the Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Act, to reallocate and reclassify 2.0 vacant FTE positions. These positions have been reclassified as Administrative Management ("Director") and Deputy Principal Assistant ("Deputy Director") and will be dedicated to addressing immigration issues in Delaware. In addition, the Department submitted a formal budget request for Fiscal Year 2027, totaling $269,400, for personnel and programmatic operational expenses to establish the Office of New Americans, supporting the initiatives proposed in this Act.
4. The Department's estimated costs for Fiscal Year 2027 are $239,359 and one-time costs of $30,000, and are as follows:
   a. $108,759 in additional salary dollars, including OECs at a rate of 33.41%, to increase the personnel costs line to align with the position reclassification for 1.0 FTE, Administrative Management, and 1.0 FTE, Deputy Principal Assistant.
   b. $130,600 in operational expenses for leased space, office supplies, travel, translation services, and public outreach and material needs.
   c. $30,000 in one-time funding for projected technology equipment, furniture, and other initial needs for the setup of the office space.
5. Lastly, the total projected operating/recurring costs reflect the salary dollars that had been previously appropriated for the FTEs before the reclassification. A 2% inflation cost has been included to account for projected salary and OEC increases in Fiscal Years 2028 and 2029.

Cost:

	Operating/Recurring	**One-Time**
Fiscal Year 2027:	$239,359	$30,000
Fiscal Year 2028:	$244,197	
Fiscal Year 2029:	$249,132	

Prepared by Jason R. Smith
Office of the Controller General