153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 259**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Poore**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 9 AND TITLE 22 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS.**

Assumptions:

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

2. This Act expands existing emergency communications coverage requirements, which currently apply to newly constructed buildings of 25,000 square feet or greater, to include renovated or modified buildings. Under this legislation, any building exceeding 25,000 square feet that undergoes renovation or modification would be required to meet the Grid Acceptance Test (GAT) at 95% compliance for emergency responder communication systems.

3. According to the Department of Safety and Homeland Security's Division of Communications, installation of bi-directional amplifiers (BDAs) is recommended to enhance radio signal strength, improve emergency communications, and eliminate coverage gaps within buildings.
    a. The cost of BDA systems is estimated to range from $30,000 to $50,000 per project.

4. The number of future State-funded renovation or modification projects exceeding 25,000 square feet is unknown and may vary annually based on capital planning decisions, available funding, and building conditions. Additionally, the scope of renovation or modification activities that would trigger compliance may vary, which may influence the number of projects subject to the requirements.

5. As the number and scope of affected projects cannot be determined, the total number of buildings required to achieve GAT compliance under this Act is unknown. Accordingly, the overall fiscal impact is indeterminable.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2027: Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2028: Indeterminable
Fiscal Year 2029: Indeterminable

Prepared by Kiley Thomson
Office of the Controller General