153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**HOUSE BILL NO. 327**
SPONSOR:	**Representative Ross Levin**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO STANDARDS FOR LEVELS OF NEONATAL CARE.**

Assumptions:

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

2. This Act establishes Standards for Levels of Neonatal Care in an effort to ensure high-risk newborns are cared for in facilities with appropriate capabilities, thereby reducing preventable complications and emergency transfers, improving survival and long-term development, and advancing equity by standardizing care. The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) must adopt rules by January 30, 2027.

3. Upon implementation, the DHSS's Division of Public Health's (DPH) Emergency Medical Services would engage in a contractual arrangement to develop and implement the programmatic requirements of this Act. Specific tasks would include project management led by a dedicated Neonatal Program Manager; stakeholder engagement; initiation of the Neonatal Accreditation Program Development and Management; accreditation visits; compliance; and verification.

4. DPH estimates first-year costs to initiate this contractual arrangement at $82,596, with preliminary deliverables complete by January 30, 2027, as defined in the Act. Subsequent year funding is estimated at $60,000 to continue coordination, program management, and compliance, survey, and attestation work beyond the initial-year scope.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2027:	$82,596
Fiscal Year 2028:	$60,000
Fiscal Year 2029:	$60,000

Prepared by Victoria Brennan
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