153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 279**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Poore**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL-BASED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS.**

Assumptions:

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

2. This Act adjusts the pay scale for school-based occupational therapists with a current state license, that has achieved a passing score on the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy and has one of the following degrees.
    a. An individual holding a master's degree shall receive the higher of their current pay grade or the base salary level of master's plus 30 credits.
    b. An individual holding a doctorate shall receive the base salary level of a doctor's degree.

3. Using statewide payroll data, 28.0 FTEs were identified as eligible for an increase as proposed by this Act.

4. The total state cost can be calculated using the pay scales and salary supplement requirements outlined in 14 Del. C. § 1305. The total state cost for salary increases including OECs at 33.72% would be $114,478.

5. The local cost can be calculated using the school district pay scales. The total local cost for salary increases including OECs at 33.72% would be $100,239.

6. For Fiscal Years 2027 and 2028 an annual inflationary adjustment of 4.2% is added to incorporate the Public Education Compensation Committee's recommended salary increases. For Fiscal Year 2029 an annual inflationary adjustment of 2% is added.

Cost:

	State Cost	Local Cost	Total Costs
Fiscal Year 2027:	$119,286	$104,449	$223,736
Fiscal Year 2028:	$124,296	$108,836	$233,133
Fiscal Year 2029:	$126,782	$111,013	$237,795

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Office of the Controller General