153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 303**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Sturgeon**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING COMMISSION.**

Assumptions:

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

2. This Act codifies the Public Education Funding Commission (PEFC or the Commission), adding it to Chapter 17 of Title 14 of the Delaware Code.

3. This Act instructs the Department of Education (DOE) to provide reasonable and necessary technical support for the Commission. The Commission shall review the public education funding system, seek public input, review how schools spent state appropriations, and make recommendations regarding changes to the public education funding system. The Commission must provide an annual report containing a summary of the review conducted and recommendations for improvement to the chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees.

4. Based on prior support contracts and the phasing of activities recommended by the PEFC, the DOE has estimated that support for the Commission would be $400,000. This estimate is based on the following.
    a. Recurring costs - $300,000 annually to support the PEFC.
    b. One-time costs - $100,000 to support review of the equalization formula in FY 2027.

5. The Governor's Recommended Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations Act includes a one-time appropriation of $225,000 to support the implementation costs associated with this Act. The expenditure of these funds shall be contingent upon the passage of this legislation.

Cost:

	Ongoing	One-Time
Fiscal Year 2027:	$300,000	$100,000
Fiscal Year 2028:	$300,000	
Fiscal Year 2029:	$300,000	

Prepared by Russell Ames
Office of the Controller General