



153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL NOTE

---

**BILL:** SENATE BILL NO. 294  
**SPONSOR:** Senator Cruce  
**DESCRIPTION:** AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FOR FULL-TIME POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

---

**Assumptions:**

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act expands eligibility of child care assistance, Purchase of Care (POC), to full-time students pursuing post-secondary education for an Associate or Baccalaureate degree.
3. The Department of Health and Social Services' Division of Social Services (DSS) estimates approximately 1,023 eligible households that meet the education criteria and household income threshold requirements of the program.
4. Eligible households were defined as households in which at least one parent or guardian had an active school enrollment record indicating full-time status at an institute of higher education. Further analysis refined the cases to those households with children aged 0-12 years who are not currently receiving child care benefits.
5. DSS reports a current annual state cost for this eligibility group at \$1,475,418. This annual cost is based on the current payment model, in which POC providers are paid based on the child's attendance rather than enrollment.
6. Future funding in the out years assumes an increase of 3% to account for an increase in eligibility.

**Cost:**

Fiscal Year 2027:	\$1,475,418
Fiscal Year 2028:	\$1,519,681
Fiscal Year 2029:	\$1,565,271

---

Prepared by Victoria Brennan  
Office of the Controller General