



**153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE
*REVISED***

BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 344
SPONSOR: Representative Morrison
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 15 AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor. Upon signature, this Act takes effect on July 1, 2027.
2. This Act clarifies and streamlines the disclosure and enforcement provisions of Delaware's Campaign Finance laws, including the following:
 - a. Requires a political candidate to report the name and contact information of the treasurer to the State Elections Commissioner (Commissioner) upon formation of the candidate committee.
 - b. Requires a political committee to submit written documentation of all loans provided to the committee.
 - c. Requires political committees to retain records for 5 years.
 - d. Requires the Commissioner to provide the Division of Civil Rights and Public Trust with a monthly list of alleged violations of campaign finance laws and further clarifies that the Division investigate and prosecute violations of campaign finance laws.
 - e. Requires the Commissioner to provide biennial training on campaign finance laws to candidates and the candidate committee's treasurer.
3. The Department of Elections anticipates that it would require significant programmatic and system upgrades to its Civix Campaign Finance Reporting System for compliance with the provisions of this Act.
 - a. The Department estimates a one-time cost of \$1,178,800 for system upgrade and implementation, with an additional customization to comply with the provisions of this Act estimated at \$184,700.
 - b. The Department estimates recurring annual operating costs of \$18,500 for annual licensing and maintenance fees beginning in Fiscal Year 2028.
4. Lastly, it is assumed that if other pending legislation impacting the Department of Elections is passed by the General Assembly and enacted into law, cost efficiencies could be realized. Fiscal resources requiring significant information technology infrastructure included in this fiscal projection can be utilized for this Act and other legislation of the 153rd General Assembly.

Cost:

	One-Time	Ongoing
Fiscal Year 2027:	\$1,363,500	\$18,500
Fiscal Year 2028:		\$18,500
Fiscal Year 2029:		\$18,500