149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE REVISED

BILL:	**HOUSE BILL NO. 292**
SPONSOR:	**Representative Jaques**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.**

Assumptions:

1. Effective upon enactment.

2. This Act reclassifies the existing Director Specialist of the statewide autism program. The new Director position is intended to lead statewide training and technical assistance for education autism services across all school districts. There is no fiscal impact for the position to reclassify to a new title and purpose as the position current exists in a filled capacity and the qualifications are largely the same.

3. This Act further creates a three year pilot program that revises the concept of the Delaware Autism Program (DAP), in which the Director will work in collaboration with a team of experts to provide technical assistance and training to Districts and educational entities.

4. To provide assistance to the Director, this Act establishes the creation of 1.0 Training Specialist for every 100 students with an education classification of autism. Currently, there are no such positions supporting the statewide autism program.

5. Based on the most recent Department of Education statewide School Profiles enrollment report, there are 1,899 students classified with Autism Spectrum Disorders for the School Year 2016-2017.

6. A total of 19.0 new Training Specialists will be created by this Act, based on its ratio requirements. This Act adds two (2) specialists in Fiscal Year 2019, two (2) in fiscal year 2020, and one (1) additional in each subsequent fiscal year until the end of the pilot program or the total ratio of specialist to students is met. Educations Specialists must meet a minimum qualification of a Master's Degree and 3.0 years of experience in working with children with autism.

7. The state share of salary is assumed at $34,069 and the local share of salary is $22,713. Health insurance is assumed at $14,000 and other employment costs at 30.98%.

8. Inflation is assumed at 2.0% annually.

Cost:	**State**	**Local**
Fiscal Year 2019:	$117,100	$59,500 (2 Training Specialists)
Fiscal Year 2020:	$236,600	$120,200 (4 Training Specialists)
Fiscal Year 2021:	$297,521	$151,137 (5 Training Specialists)

Prepared by Art Jenkins
Office of the Controller General