



149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL NOTE

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**BILL:** HOUSE BILL NO. 346  
**SPONSOR:** Representative Bentz  
**DESCRIPTION:** AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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**Assumptions:**

1. This Act becomes effective upon the signature of the Governor.
2. This Act creates the High Needs Educator Student Loan Payment Program. The Program provides awards to educators that work in hard-to-fill subject areas, as defined by the Department of Education, and/or hard-to-staff schools. Hard-to-staff schools include those with the highest populations of low-income students, English Language Learners (ELL), students with disabilities, or minority students. Educators supporting educational programs in facilities operated by the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and their Families are also eligible for awards.
3. The Department of Education will make loan payments (awards) ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 on behalf of the educator as part of the student loan repayment program.
4. Awards are subject to the availability of funding, with priority given to applicants who work in both hard-to-fill subject areas and hard-to staff schools and those with the greatest financial need.
5. Assumes roughly 100 to 200 awards granted annually. The Fiscal Year 2019 Governor's Recommended Budget includes an appropriation of \$200,000 for the program.

**Cost:**

Fiscal Year 2019: \$200,000

Fiscal Year 2020: \$200,000

Fiscal Year 2021: \$200,000

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