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# **Delaware Poverty Policy Inventory: 2009–2016**

*Submitted to the*  
**Wilmington Education Improvement Commission**

*Prepared by*  
**KIDS COUNT in Delaware and the University of Delaware Center for Community Research and Service**

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## Introduction

The Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (Commission) advises the governor and legislature on statewide improvements for all schools with high concentrations of children in poverty. The Commission has undertaken research on the policies and services now in place that impact children and families in poverty in order to consider how to strengthen both policies and services.

In June 2016, KIDS COUNT in Delaware entered a working partnership with the Commission to build a comprehensive inventory of state and local policies related to poverty. KIDS COUNT in Delaware has an extensive history with issues related to economic opportunity and poverty reduction for children. For the inventory, KIDS COUNT built on the work it previously conducted for the Child Poverty Task Force appointed by Governor Ruth Ann Minner in 2007. The Child Poverty Task Force's work culminated with a 2009 Summit, *Building Bright Futures: Advancing the Child Poverty Agenda*.

The child poverty policy inventory conducted for the Commission focuses on the period since 2009 when the Delaware Child Poverty Task Force (Task Force) issued its report reviewing prior state policy, "Analysis of Child Poverty and Economic Opportunity in Delaware—Findings and Initial Recommendations of the Delaware Child Poverty Task Force." The inventory prepared for the Commission is based on a review of legislation proposed in General Assembly 145 through General Assembly 148, years 2009-2016. The KIDS COUNT project team assembled the bills chronologically, identifying those that would impact Delaware's children and their families. The final legislative status of each bill was then determined, and bills that were not enacted into law were eliminated. The enacted legislation was sorted into groups based on the poverty-related areas of policy action identified by the Task Force in 2009. These include basic needs—housing, basic needs—food security, basic needs—transportation, health and healthcare, economic opportunity—building wealth and assets, early care and education, education, employability, and child welfare resulting in the attached inventory of poverty policy in Delaware. These headings represent the organization of the policy inventory that follows.

For each legislation action, the inventory provides information on the legislative session, bill type and number, long title, synopsis, and the date of passage into law. The data for the inventory were obtained from the records of the Delaware General Assembly. For those interested in the overall path of policy, the inventory should be read in conjunction with the 2009 Child Poverty Task Force report and the Commission's policy brief, *Child Poverty Policy in Delaware: A Focus on Health and Education* (May 2017), both of which are available at the Commission's website: [www.solutionsfordelawareschools.com](http://www.solutionsfordelawareschools.com).

## Basic Needs: Housing

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	House Bill # 107 w/House Amendment (HA) 1, HA 2, HA 3 + Senate Amendment (SA) 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	Legislation related to manufactured housing was enacted which requires that any rental payments or rental increases shall be paid in equal, pro rata, amounts extended equally over a calendar year. Any requirement of a lump sum payment for rent shall be forbidden, unless the tenant requests such payment and the owner/landlord agrees to such lump sum payment.	6/24/2009
145	House Bill # 149	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 5 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO COMPENSATION RECEIVED BY MORTGAGE LOAN BROKERS AND LICENSED LENDERS FOR MORTGAGE LOAN MODIFICATION SERVICES.	Protection from Predatory Lending: Limits compensation that may be received by mortgage loan brokers and licensed lenders who engage in mortgage loan modification services for homeowners.	7/8/2009
145	Senate Bill # 157 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL HOMES AND EXEMPTIONS	Bankruptcy Asset Protection: consistent with federal law, protects up to \$125,000 of a debtor's equity in their principal residential home in a bankruptcy proceeding.	5/18/2010
145	House Bill # 392 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITIES.	This bill requires a landlord to make a community center available to a tenant's association or, if none, a group of tenants to use to hold meetings addressing matters affecting or relating to the tenants' rights, obligations, and/or privileges in and/or relating to the manufactured home community. Use of the community center by the tenants for such meeting shall be at no charge and shall be permitted within a reasonable amount of time after the tenant's association or group of tenants have made a request to the landlord.	7/15/2010
146	House Substitute (HS) 1 For House Bill # 57 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FORECLOSURES.	Section 1 requires an affidavit of loss mitigation prior to a plaintiff seeking the entry of judgment in a foreclosure action in order to ensure homeowners are considered for loan modifications before a foreclosure action is concluded with respect to their residence. Section 2 ensures homeowners are provided with certain notices in a timely manner with respect to the foreclosure process, available assistance, and other aspects of the loan process.	9/21/2011

## Basic Needs: Housing

146	HS 1 FOR House Bill # 58	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FORECLOSURES INCLUDING A FORECLOSURE MEDIATION PROGRAM FOR HOMEOWNERS	<p>Section 1 establishes the Automatic Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program in order to ensure homeowners have an opportunity to meet face-to-face with lender representatives and mediate both retention and non-retention options before a judgment is entered or a sheriff's sale occurs. This Section codifies an expanded version of the Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program currently run by the Superior Court under its Administrative Directive 2011-2, as first established under the Superior Court's Administrative Directive 2009-3. The Automatic Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program established by Section 1 expands access to mediation to all homeowners of owner-occupied residential one-to-four family properties other than those with nonbank seller-originated financing and eliminates financial qualification rules set forth in the existing mediation program. This will ensure that mediation can bring all distressed homeowners that do not wish to have their primary residence sold at a foreclosure sale together with representatives of their lender in face-to-face meetings to address not just possible loan modifications, but other mutually agreeable resolutions short of a sheriff's sale. Section 1 also requires that plaintiffs pay a court-determined mediation fee in foreclosure actions for which mediation will occur; this fee is to be set by the court in an amount to defray the costs of the mediation program.</p> <p>Section 2 sets out certain requirements for the filing of a complaint or summons in a mortgage foreclosure action, including that the filing be accompanied by certain documentation related to the notices. Section 2 also extends the period for a defendant to file an answer in mortgage foreclosure actions that are subject to the mediation program established under Section 1 until the date of any scheduled mediation conference.</p>	9/21/2011
146	House Bill # 59 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 25, TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION.	<p>This bill provides for an Office within the Division of Consumer Protection to identify mortgage foreclosure fraud, to reduce foreclosure, and to promote financial literacy. In addition, the Office will receive calls from borrowers in default and make appropriate referrals to housing counselors or other agencies. The Outreach Coordinator will be responsible for acting as a liaison with servicers in some circumstances and participating as necessary in any mediation activity. The Office will exist for a period of three years from the date it is created pursuant to this bill.</p>	09/21/2011
146	Senate Bill # 42 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FORECLOSURE CONSULTANTS AND MORTGAGE MODIFICATION SERVICE PROVIDERS.	<p>Sections 1-8 of this Bill provide that the Mortgage Rescue Fraud Protection Act in 6 Del. C. Chapter 24B will protect homeowners 60 days in default on their mortgage loans. Currently the protections are in effect after an action for foreclosure is filed. Section 9 creates a registration requirement for Mortgage Loan Modification Companies that provide services to Delaware residents. Written contracts with disclosures are required and no fees can be collected in advance. The registration and renewal fees can be used to support foreclosure relief programs. The law is enforced by the Attorney General.</p>	9/21/2011

## Basic Needs: Housing

146	Senate Bill # 48 w/SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DECEPTIVE FORECLOSURE PRACTICES	This Act prohibits the use of a deceptive or fraudulent record, document, or statement to support an action to foreclose.	9/21/2011
146	House Concurrent Resolution # 24	RECOGNIZING AND PROCLAIMING JUNE 2011 AS "NEW HOMES MONTH."	This Resolution proclaims June 2011 as New Homes Month and urges Delaware's citizens to recognize the month dedicated to building better homes and improving the quality of life in Delaware.	6/30/2011
146	House Bill # 231	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE MEDIATION PROGRAM.	This Bill makes it clear that the Superior Court can allow for non-profit legal service providers to perform the function of the HUD-certified housing counselors in the mediation process. Legal Services Corporation of Delaware has been authorized to serve in that role by Superior Court Administrative Directive No. 2011-2 and this bill will allow the Superior Court to preserve that role.	7/5/2012
146	House Bill # 389	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH.	Existing programs and services underserve runaway and homeless youth. This bill creates a specific assessment and reporting requirement for the Delaware Interagency Council on Homelessness, in conjunction with the Department of Services for Children, Youth & their Families to identify and define youth who are runaway or homeless, and to provide a comprehensive analysis of the resources and that may already exist, or that may be needed to serve the runaway and homeless youth population.	7/18/2012
146	Senate Bill # 258 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 12 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE OF ABANDONED OR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY.	This bill creates an additional incentive for holders of abandoned property to report such property to the state and promptly resolve such claims. Holders not currently reporting any or all amounts or types of abandoned property or already engaged in claims resolution with the State Escheator would be eligible to resolve claims before the Secretary of State in a process that would limit the reporting of abandoned property to 1996 or 1993, rather than the current obligation of holders to report abandoned property back to 1981 or those making voluntary disclosure to report abandoned property back to 1991.	7/11/2012
146	House Joint Resolution # 18	DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES TO SUBMIT AN ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CREATING A DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOR YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS UP TO AGE 21.	This resolution is in response to recommendations from Delaware's Youth Advisory Council, which is comprised of youth who have experienced foster care and who speak on behalf of all youth in care. The Youth Advisory Council provides the opportunity for youth, who are sincere about improving foster care, to assemble and discuss issues and possible solutions. The Youth Advisory Council members, in collaboration with the Delaware Youth Opportunities Initiative, have asked the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families and the General Assembly to consider creating a developmentally appropriate foster care program for youth/young adults up to the age of 21 to assist with their successful transition to adulthood. This resolution requires significant youth participation in submitting a timely analysis and report on the practical and fiscal impacts of extending Delaware's foster care program to age 21.	7/5/2012

## Basic Needs: Housing

147	House Bill # 40 w/ SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10 AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE AND CHAPTERS 198, 199 AND 200, VOLUME 78 OF THE LAWS OF DELAWARE RELATING TO FORECLOSURES.	Mortgage Foreclosure: extends the Automatic Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program and the Office of Foreclosure Prevention.	5/28/2013
147	Senate Substitution (SS) 1 for Senate Bill # 33 w/Sa 1 + HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MANUFACTURED HOMES AND MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITIES.	This Bill provides that if a community owner desires to raise the rents charged to homeowners in a manufactured home community more than the average annual increase in the Consumer Price Index For All Urban Consumers for the preceding thirty-six month period, and if the home owners do not agree, the matter will be resolved through mediation and, failing that, non-binding arbitration, appealable to the Superior Court. Rent increases exceeding the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the preceding 36 month period may be justified with evidence regarding increases in the cost of operating, maintaining and improving the affected community. The bill also provides for penalties to community owners who increase rent beyond the CPI-U without submitting to the justification process.	6/30/2013
147	House Bill # 233	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MANUFACTURED HOMES AND MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITIES.	This bill eliminates from Title 25 of the Delaware Code language providing that if the Board of Directors of the Delaware Manufactured Home Relocation Authority does not adopt an adjusted assessment on or before January 31, 2006 then the Board shall eliminate the fees in its entirety. The Authority having complied with the requirement, the sentence is no longer relevant.	4/8/2014
148	Senate Bill # 66 w/SA 4	AN ACT TO AMEND THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION AND LAND BANKS.	Neighborhood Conservation and Land Banks: Allows any DE jurisdiction with a long-term residential vacancy rate above 3%, including a county, to form a land bank, where determined that a land bank would help <b>address the problem of vacant/abandoned property within jurisdiction.</b>	8/11/2015
148	Senate Bill # 63	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 25 AND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING.	At the recommendation of the Joint Sunset Committee, this Act removes the Council on Manufactured Housing and the Delaware Manufactured Housing Alternative Dispute Resolution Act from the Delaware Code.	6/26/2015
148	Senate Bill # 179 w/SA 3 + HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 6 AND 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FAIR HOUSING.	This bill prohibits housing discrimination based on source of income by adding "source of income" as a protected class under the Delaware Fair Housing Act and the Landlord Tenant Code. A person may still take into account sufficiency of income and credit worthiness of a tenant or buyer, so long as any standards are applied neutrally without regard to the source of income. There is also an exception for landlords who are employees of a housing authority and are prohibited by their employer's conflict of interest policy from renting to persons receiving housing assistance payments. The bill contains language specifying that landlords will not be compelled to participate in rental assistance programs, and that the bill is not meant to prevent landlords who do participate in housing programs from reserving a certain number of units for that purpose. This measure will prevent and address discrimination against those who receive part or all of their income from child support, government or private assistance programs, or any lawful occupation.	8/3/2016

## Basic Needs: Housing

148	SS 1 for Senate Bill # 240	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EMERGENCY HOUSING SHELTERS.	This Bill updates the definition of emergency housing shelter to correlate time frames and program terminology with those accepted by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Delaware State Housing Authority, and current best practices. This will allow emergency shelters to be in compliance with consistent and reasonable length of stay time frames across funding sources and will provide an accurate reflection of present day emergency shelter services and client needs. After further conversation with stakeholders, concern was expressed about a minimum requirement for entry. This provision has since been stricken.	8/10/2016
148	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 58	RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2016, AS THE 33RD ANNUAL "NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING MONTH" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	This Senate Concurrent Resolution recognizes the month of April, 2016, as the 33rd Annual "National Fair Housing Month" in the State of Delaware.	4/21/2016

## Basic Needs: Food Security

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
146	House Bill # 3 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LIMITING ARTIFICIAL TRANS FATS IN FOOD AVAILABLE OR SERVED TO STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, INCLUDING CHARTER SCHOOLS.	This Bill prohibits public schools, including charter schools, and school districts from making available or serving food with more than 0.5 gram of artificial trans fatty acids to students in grades K through 12.	6/22/2011
146	Senate Bill # 12	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM.	This Bill removes the prohibition against persons convicted of any drug felony from receiving federal food benefit assistance.	6/22/2011
146	Senate Bill # 35	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEPENDENT HEALTH COVERAGE.	The State Employee Benefits Committee has voted in favor of providing health coverage for those "eligible child dependents" who will graduate from college in May 2011. Under the terms of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, the State of Delaware must provide dependent coverage for eligible adults until the age of 26 beginning on July 1, 2011. Current Delaware law provides dependent coverage for full time students until the age of 24. There are approximately 120 students who will graduate in May 2011, and would have to be removed from their parent's health plan as of June 1, 2011. Assuming they meet the requirements of the federal health care act, they would be eligible to re-enroll in their parent's plan on July 1, 2011. This bill enables those graduating students to remain on their parent's plan for the month of June. This bill will have to financial impact on the General Fund. The Office of Management and Budget conservatively estimates that coverage for these students for one month may cost \$46,000. Those funds, however, will be paid by the Health Fund, and the SEBC has approved those payments.	5/4/2011
146	House Concurrent Resolution # 49	COMMENDING THE FOOD BANK OF DELAWARE FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	This concurrent resolution commends the Food Bank of Delaware for their contributions to the State of Delaware.	5/17/2012
146	House Joint Resolution # 11	PROCLAIMING MARCH 2012 NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH.	This Joint Resolution proclaims the month of March 2012 National Nutrition Month.	4/5/2012
148	House Concurrent Resolution # 53	JOINING THE FOOD BANK OF DELAWARE IN THE "148 FOR THE 148TH" FOOD DRIVE.	This concurrent resolution outlines the General Assembly joining with the Food Bank of Delaware in the "148 in the 148th" Food Drive, with the goal of reaching 148,000 pounds of food or \$148,000, or a combination thereof, by March 31, 2016. The "148 in the 148th" Food Drive would be supported by the Delaware Food Industry Council as well as Delaware Technical Community College, which is incorporating this drive as part of its community service outreach.	1/28/2016

## Basic Needs: Transportation

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	House Bill # 305	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION OF STATE EMPLOYEES.	Current Federal regulations will not allow group home operators, funded by the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS), to be billed by DDDS for use of Fleet Services vehicles. Federal regulations instead require that group home operators contract directly with Fleet Services. This statutory change will allow Delaware to continue to receive \$1 million to \$1.25 million a year in Federal funds to provide services to people with developmental disabilities.	1/28/2010
145	Senate Bill # 242	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 2 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DELAWARE TRANSIT CORPORATION.	This Bill will require DART to publish all route, schedule and fare information for public transit routes on a website maintained by the Corporation to be available for download by the public and third parties at no charge.	7/12/2010
147	House Bill # 100	AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, BEING CHAPTER 152 OF VOLUME 48, LAWS OF DELAWARE, RELATING TO THE DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY BOUNDARIES.	As to the Charter of the City of Newark, this Bill replaces the prior actual description language of City boundaries with a general reference to the limits and boundaries as previously fixed or established or altered hereafter.	6/27/2013
148	Senate Bill # 62	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS.	Transportation of Pupils: Updates minimum insurance coverage requirements for school transportation to reflect current industry standards.	4/22/2016
148	House Bill # 140 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 21 AND 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TAXES AND FEES SUPPORTING THE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND.	Transportation Trust Fund: Increases several revenue sources for Transportation Trust Fund.	7/1/2015
148	Senate Bill # 262 w/SA 4, SA 5	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 2 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES.	The purpose of this Chapter is to ensure the safety, reliability and cost-effectiveness of rides provided by Transportation Network Company Drivers within the State of Delaware and to preserve and enhance access to these important transportation options for residents and visitors to the State. To facilitate the regulatory process in a quickly changing industry, the Division is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to ensure compliance with this Chapter or to address new industry developments not addressed explicitly in this Chapter.	8/10/2016

## Health and Healthcare

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	House Bill # 199 w/HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS.	This Act requires that private health insurers in Delaware cover the developmental screenings for infants and toddlers that are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Delaware Early Childhood Council. Such screenings are already covered for children in the state's Medicaid program. The estimated cost to policyholders of covering these screenings is three cents per member per month.	8/27/2009
145	Senate Bill # 65 w/SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DENTAL INSURANCE AND CHILDREN WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES.	Parents of children with severe disabilities experience difficulty in identifying practitioners willing and able to provide effective dental care. Children with autism or mental deficiency are often uncooperative with treatment. Children with postural or mobility impairments may be unable to transfer from a wheelchair or sit in a standard dental treatment chair. Strict application of "in-network" insurance restrictions exacerbates the parents dilemma since there may be no nearby in-network dentist willing and able to treat their child. When parents with secondary child Medicaid insurance are unable to effectively access private dental insurance, the result is an increase in Medicaid claims. This bill only applies to insurers which include dental services in their benefits package. It allows parents with such private dental insurance to secure dental care for a child with a severe disability irrespective of "in-network" restrictions. Finally, it promotes the availability of in-network practitioners willing and able to treat such children.	6/25/2009
145	Senate Bill # 86	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY, INFORMED CONSENT AND HIV TESTING.	This Bill removes the stigma of HIV testing for pregnant women by including it in the standard battery of tests administered for all pregnant women. It will have the added beneficial effect of decreasing the rate of neonatal infection of HIV. It preserves the right of a pregnant woman to opt out of receiving the test.	7/6/2009
145	House Concurrent Resolution # 18	ESTABLISHING OF THE DELAWARE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVIST HEALTH INSURANCE SUPPORT GROUP.	This Concurrent Resolution establishes that the Delaware National Guard and Military Reservist Health Insurance Support Group continue, as a permanent body, working to promote acceptance of military health insurance by physicians and health care facilities in this State.	5/13/2009
145	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 16	EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE DELAWARE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE HOUSING IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HIV AND THE CARE OF INDIVIDUALS WITH HIV.	This Senate Concurrent Resolution expresses the sense of the Delaware General Assembly that ensuring the availability of adequate housing is an essential component of an effective strategy for prevention and treatment of HIV and the care of individuals with HIV.	

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145	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 19	ENCOURAGING ALL DELAWARE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR STUDENTS IN ORDER TO DECREASE OBESITY AND IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF DELAWARE'S YOUNG PEOPLE.	This Senate Concurrent Resolution articulates the support of the Delaware General Assembly for the recommendations of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans and findings of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies as they pertain to physical activity in children. This resolution also encourages Delaware's public and private schools to provide students in grades K-8 with a minimum of 150 minutes per week of moderate to vigorous physical activity during the school week.	
145	House Bill # 139 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE HEALTHY CHILDREN PROGRAM.	Delaware's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP): Extends CHIP to include reduced-cost health insurance coverage for children of families with personal incomes above 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. However, a cost-sharing program is to be implemented under CHIP whereby payments, as determined by DHSS, must be paid on behalf of the child for such care; notwithstanding the above, the cost sharing provision of the bill is designed to have the new program impose no cost whatsoever on the State unless funds are specifically appropriated for it.	8/27/2009
145	House Bill # 41 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE CREATING A COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT ACT.	As the State mental health delivery system evolves from a primarily institutional to a community-based model, it is important to define minimum patient rights in community facilities. This Act establishes a community mental health treatment act with rights paralleling those of patients in the substance abuse treatment system compiled in Chapter 22 of Title 16 of the Delaware Code.	7/15/2010
145	House Bill # 420	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE	This Act is intended to prohibit the practice of "post-claims underwriting" by health insurers, as defined in Title 18 of the Delaware Code. Underwriting is the practice of determining, based upon information provided by an applicant for an insurance policy about the applicant's health and background, whether the insurance company should offer the applicant a policy and, if so, what should be the terms and the cost of the policy. Health insurance underwriting normally is completed prior to the issuance of an insurance policy. Post claims underwriting is a practice whereby an insurance company fails to properly complete underwriting prior to issuing a policy, and instead waits until a claim is filed to determine that the insured was originally ineligible for the policy and rescind the policy, notwithstanding the fact that the insured has, in some instances, been paying premiums on the policy for several months or years. This Act prohibits rescissions of health insurance policies, as defined in the Act, based upon post-claims underwriting. This Act does not apply in instances where the insured knowingly misrepresented or omitted information which materially affects the risk of hazard assumed by the insurer.	8/30/2010

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145	Senate Bill # 38	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.	This is a "housekeeping" bill for the Workers' compensation medical payment system that was approved by the Health Care Advisory Panel (HCAP) and the Department of Labor.	7/6/2009
145	Senate Bill # 221 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH.	This Bill updates the statute that allows the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services to authorize surgical procedures for persons receiving residential services from the Division. It expands the range of potentially available relatives to authorize elective surgery for persons receiving services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services. It expands the scope of the authorization to diagnostic procedures and corrects the statutory definition of who is covered by this law.	7/15/2010
145	Senate Bill # 228	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE FOR PURPOSES OF REGULATING DISCOUNT MEDICAL PLANS.	This Act establishes a regulatory system for medical discount plans, i.e. plans sold to individuals which offer them a discount on medical services with certain health care providers. The emergence of medical discount plans in Delaware has created confusion, as they are often mistaken for health insurance, and this legislation seeks to ensure that medical discount plans are not misrepresented as insurance. This legislation also provides a specific set of rules that entities selling medical discount plans must follow in order to protect consumers, and a regulatory structure which will allow the state to enforce those rules.	8/30/2010
145	Senate Bill # 300	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION.	The State of Delaware currently requires lead poisoning screening for children at 12 months of age. Because many children are not yet sufficiently mobile prior to 12 months of age to have full exposure to potential lead hazards in their environments, it has become common practice in other states to test some children at higher risk for lead exposure at 24 months of age as well. This Act creates a formal screening process so that children at high risk for lead exposure can receive an additional screening test at 24 months of age, while children at lower risk will continue to receive only the currently required screen at 12 months of age.	7/15/2010
145	House Resolution # 39	REQUESTING THE HEALTH CARE ADVISORY PANEL TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE IMPACT ON PREMIUM COSTS TO EMPLOYERS AS A RESULT OF ENACTMENT OF THE 2007 WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW.	This House Resolution requests that the Health Care Advisory Panel provide an update to the Legislature on the impact on premium costs to employers as a result of enactment of the 2007 Workers' Compensation law.	04/21/2010

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145	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 26	COMMENDING THE DELAWARE STATE DENTAL SOCIETY ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ITS SIXTH ANNUAL GIVE KIDS A SMILE PROGRAM, AND RECOGNIZE ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS.	This Resolution commends the Delaware State Dental Society on the success of its Sixth Annual Give Kids a Smile Program.	01/28/2010 <sup>1</sup>
145	Senate Joint Resolution # 3 w/SA 1	CALLING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE ENTIRE STATE OF DELAWARE AS A HEALTHCARE INNOVATION ZONE.	This Senate Joint Resolution explains the concept of the "Healthcare Innovation Zone," stresses its potential for increasing the effectiveness of healthcare services while reducing costs, and directs the Department of Health and Social Services, acting in conjunction with other state and private agencies and organizations, to take steps to prepare an application for the entire State of Delaware to be designated as a Healthcare Innovation Zone. The Resolution also urges the Governor of Delaware to proclaim the entire State of Delaware as a Healthcare Innovation Zone in order to demonstrate the interest of the healthcare provider community and state government in pursuing this opportunity.	7/27/2010
146	Senate Substitute 1 for Senate Bill 56 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH SERVICE CORPORATIONS.	This Act will require insurers administering CHIP buy-in programs in other states to cause similar buy-in programs to be offered in Delaware if they should engage in specified transactions or affiliations with Delaware health service corporations.	6/27/2011
146	House Bill # 81 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES HEALTH CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM AND STATE EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN.	Sections 1 and 2 of the Bill establish a fixed cost share effective July 1, 2012 for the different health insurance plans offered by the State for regular officers or employees of the State and their dependents, and a fixed cost share for pensioners and their dependents who are not eligible for federal Medicare. For the basic health care insurance plan, as set forth in Section 5203 of Title 29, the State will pay 96% of the total cost of the plan. For the Consumer-Directed Health plan, the State will pay 95% of the total cost of the plan. The State will pay 93.5% of the total cost of the HMO plan, and the State will pay 86.75% of the total cost of the PPO plan...	5/2/2011

<sup>1</sup> Repeats every year, only included once in this document.

## Health and Healthcare

146	House Bill # 160 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN OF INSURED.	This Act changes provisions for supplemental health insurance coverage for children of insureds, raising the age children may be covered by their parent's or parents' health insurance to the age of 26. The provisions of this Act shall have no force or effect if the health care bill passed by Congress and signed by the President of the United States in 2010 is declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States of America.	7/29/2011
146	House Bill # 161 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE PROHIBITION OF THE DENIAL OF COVERAGE FOR PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS IN CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF NINETEEN.	This Act amends Title 18 to prohibit the denial of coverage to children under the age of 19 due to pre-existing conditions.	7/25/2011
146	SS 1 for Senate Bill # 56 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH SERVICE CORPORATIONS.	This Act will require insurers administering CHIP buy-in programs in other states to cause similar buy-in programs to be offered in Delaware if they should engage in specified transactions or affiliations with Delaware health service corporations.	6/27/2011
146	Senate Bill # 70 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN BY PROHIBITING BISPHENOL-A IN PRODUCTS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.	This bill protects the health of young children by prohibiting the chemical bisphenol-A in certain children's products such as bottles, cups, and other containers used for food or beverages. Bisphenol-A, or BPA is a chemical used to help harden plastic and is found in many plastic food storage containers. BPA is a known hormone disruptor. Tests have shown that trace amounts leach out of the containers and into foods and liquids. BPA-free products exist. This legislation is modeled after similar legislation in Minnesota and seven other states.	6/30/2011
146	Senate Bill # 134 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE.	This bill would amend the insurance code to allow patients to assign their right to receive benefits under their health insurance policies to physicians and other health care providers. In addition, this bill would incorporate the provisions of Section 7.6 of Insurance Department Regulation 1301 into the insurance code.	7/13/2011
146	Senate Bill # 137 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO COST-SHARING, DEDUCTIBLE OR CO-INSURANCE FOR TIER IV OR SPECIALTY TIER PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.	This Bill creates a moratorium on health insurance providers that charge higher cost sharing for different classification of prescription drugs.	9/14/2011
146	House Joint Resolution # 7 w/SA 1	ESTABLISHING A STUDY GROUP TO ASSESS CHILD MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS IN KENT AND SUSSEX COUNTIES.	This joint resolution establishes a study group to evaluate child mental health needs in Kent and Sussex Counties, focusing on the needs of child victims of sexual assault.	7/25/2011

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146	House Bill # 303	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS AND INSURANCE	School Based Health Centers exist in 28 Delaware high schools and provide convenient and effective health services to students. The federal government is requiring that Delaware change the manner in which it bills for SBHC services, by requiring that private insurers be billed before Medicaid is billed. This legislation establishes the framework for doing such billing.	6/26/2012
146	House Bill # 384 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNIVERSAL HEARING SCREENING, TRACKING, AND INTERVENTION.	This Bill updates the Universal Newborn and Infant Hearing Screening Act to require tracking and intervention protocol. In addition, families are to be provided with information on early intervention and treatment. The Bill also creates the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Advisory Board.	8/3/2012
146	Senate Bill # 22 w/SA 1, SA 3	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS COVERAGE.	This Act provides for insurance coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders.	8/13/2012
146	Senate Bill # 190 w/SA 1, SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE HEALTHY PREGNANCIES FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN ACT.	This Bill recognizes the adverse impact of restraining prisoners who are pregnant and its danger to a woman's well-being during this time. The Bill ensures that a correctional institution does not use restraints on a pregnant prisoner except under very limited circumstances. It also requires correctional facilities to adopt rules to comply with the Act.	7/12/2012
146	Senate Bill # 257	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ASSISTANCE WITH MEDICATIONS.	This Act expands the ability of persons to assist in the administration of medications to students by including coaches or persons hired or contracted by schools serving students in kindergarten through grade 12. The Act also provides for the assistance of medication during approved school activities outside the traditional school day and off-campus activities.	7/18/2012
146	House Joint Resolution # 17	ESTABLISHING A STUDY GROUP TO ASSESS DELAWARE'S CIVIL MENTAL HEALTH LAWS.	This resolution establishes a study group to assess Delaware's civil mental health laws.	7/24/2012
147	House Bill # 162 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS.	This bill is designed to bring the health insurance provisions of the Delaware Insurance Code in compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA"). Sections 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, and 14 (in part) of this bill amend the Delaware Insurance Code to reflect the requirement that dependents be covered up until the age of 26...	7/15/2013
147	House Bill # 194 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND MIDWIFERY.	This Legislation aligns the penalty for non-compliance with the non-nurse midwives law and regulations with the penalty for practicing medicine without a license. It imposes civil and/or criminal penalties for violations of existing law. The increase in penalties is necessary because people are acting in violation of current law and regulations and as such are exposing mothers and newborn infants to significant risk and harm.	7/31/2013

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147	SS 1 for Senate Bill # 35	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SPECIALTY TIER PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.	This bill imposes dollar limits on the health plan practice of prescription drug cost-sharing known as specialty tiers, in order to protect patients from unaffordable co-insurance or co-payment amounts. Patients' co-insurance or co-payment fees for specialty tier drugs will be limited to \$150 per month for up to a 30-day supply of any single specialty tier drug. Patients will also be able to request an exception to obtain a specialty drug that would not otherwise be available on a health plan formulary. The bill goes into effect on January 1, 2014.	7/23/2013
147	Senate Bill # 42 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE WITH RESPECT TO MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE.	This bill ensures that individuals who are eligible for the Federal Medicare program due to disability are able to purchase the same Medicare supplement policies available to individuals eligible for Medicare due to age. This bill also ensures that the rates for Medicare supplement insurance purchased by persons who receive Medicare for reasons unrelated to disability are not affected by this bill.	7/15/2013
147	Senate Bill # 59 w/SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND DISPENSING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, AND THE DELAWARE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM.	Section 1 creates the Controlled Substance Advisory Committee, a designee/recommending body that previously existed only in regulation; makes numerous grammatical corrections; makes uniform the language pertaining to the Secretary's duty to the public interest; codifies requirements applicants must meet before they are issued a controlled substance registration; adds discipline of one's professional license as a basis to have a controlled substance registration denied or disciplined; limits the Secretary's power to issue a rule to show cause order to those instances in which a registrant no longer meets the requirements for registration or has failed to complete mandatory continued education; increases the Secretary's power to fine from \$500 to \$1,000 per offense; clarifies that all hearings contemplated by this Subchapter are governed by the APA; and revamps the Secretary's power to temporarily suspend a controlled substance registration to create a process akin to that used by the Board of Medical Licensure & Discipline.	8/6/2013

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			<p>Section 2 corrects § 4798 (b) (9) (c) by deleting the word “prescribes” and replacing it with “dispenses”. Section 2 of this bill also creates a new requirement that dispensers check the patient utilization report for the past 12 months of any patient that the dispenser has a reasonable belief may be seeking controlled substances for any non-medical reason. This provision was inadvertently omitted from the initial bill creating the Prescription Monitoring Program. Section 2 of this bill authorizes licensed chemical dependency professionals and licensed professional counselors of mental health to access the Prescription Monitoring Program when a patient is enrolled in a substance abuse treatment program, and for the Chief Medical Examiner or a licensed physician designee for the purpose of investigating a person’s death. Finally, the bill authorizes the exchange of prescription information submitted to the PMP through an interstate commission with an authorized member state.</p>	
147	Senate Bill # 119 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF HOSPICES AND TO THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT	This bill addresses the prescription drug abuse epidemic in Delaware by promoting safe disposal of prescription drugs by hospice programs and their clients. This bill will require the Department of Health and Social Services to establish and implement uniform protocol for all hospice programs operating in Delaware for the safe disposal of unused medication upon the death or discharge of an in-home hospice patient. This bill also prohibits non-pharmacy practitioners from dispensing controlled substances beyond a 72 hour emergency supply and requires practitioners who dispense the permitted quantity to enter the data into the prescription monitoring program.	7/3/2013
147	Senate Bill # 139 w/SA 3	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.	To reduce lead poisoning in Delaware, this Act requires the Department to establish regulations for lead-based paint activities performed by renovators and dust-wipe technicians in; and provides administrative authority to seek criminal penalties for continuing violations and bring civil action to collect assessed penalties in the event of nonpayment.	7/31/2013
147	House Concurrent Resolution # 6	IN SUPPORT OF NUTRITION EDUCATION AND OUTREACH FOR MOMS AND BABIES.	This House Concurrent Resolution acknowledges the importance of both educating mothers on all infant feeding options and allowing a mother to choose the best feeding options for her child.	3/13/2013
147	House Concurrent Resolution # 7	A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION BY ALL DELAWARE HOSPITALS OF PULSE OXIMETRY FOR NEWBORN SCREENING.	This House Concurrent Resolution recognizes and applauds the commitment of Delaware’s hospitals to child and maternal health, as recently evident by their adoption of the pulse oximetry testing standard for newborn screening.	3/13/2013
147	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 66	ENCOURAGING THE USE OF VACCINATIONS AS A TOOL TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	Vaccinations: establishes value of vaccinations as a public health tool and encourages utilization to promote health across all age groups.	

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147	House Bill # 154 w/HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 16 AND 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF RESIDENTS OR PATIENTS IN FACILITIES.	In recognition of the increasing abusive and illegal uses of controlled substances and the illegal commerce thereof, this bill creates a new offense and imposes penalties for diverting prescription drugs from a patient of a facility. It also requires those who register to prescribe, sell, dispense or distribute controlled substances demonstrate regularly to complete 2 continuing education credits in the area of awareness and knowledge of the problems posed by the abuse of controlled substances. The bill also makes corrections to drafting errors in the 2011 bill that eliminated consent as a defense to sexual abuse in a facility.	2/14/2014
147	House Bill # 158 w/HA 1, HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH BENEFITS.	This bill provides for the state to pay for health care coverage of dependent children for persons that have died in the line-of-duty after August 20th, 2009.	5/7/2014
147	House Bill # 214 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO INFORMATION ON DOWN SYNDROME.	This bill requires that hospitals, physicians and other health professionals provide information about Down Syndrome and Down Syndrome resources and support groups to parents who have received a prenatal or postnatal diagnosis of Down Syndrome. The Department of Health and Social Services is tasked with collecting and distributing appropriate information to health care providers for distribution to parents. This bill will ensure that parents receiving a Down Syndrome diagnosis are timely provided accurate and complete information about Down Syndrome to help them in their planning process.	5/7/2014
147	Senate Bill # 219	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.	Delaware, like other states, is seeing a dramatic increase in heroin and opioid abuse and as a result is experiencing an increase in the number of people overdosing on these substances. This Legislation will increase the amount of the life-saving drug Naloxone in the community and specifically in the hands of the people most likely to discover someone who has suffered an overdose and who will be able to administer a dose of the medication while waiting for first responders to arrive. This will improve the chances that people who overdose will survive and be connected to treatment programs. Friends and family members of people with addictions to opioids can purchase Naloxone when a prescription is written for the person with the addiction. This Legislation will allow DHSS to create a community-based program that will put Naloxone into the hands of friends, family, and maybe service providers at no or low cost. DHSS will seek grant funding to support a community-based program.	6/25/2014
148	Senate Bill # 91 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 2 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION.	This bill makes changes to the transportation services for Medicaid clients. It clarifies that health care facilities are able to transport their Medicaid patients and receive reimbursement from a Medicaid transportation contractor. The bill also sets out the circumstances and clients that stretcher vans can serve.	6/30/2015

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148	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 29	ESTABLISHING THE BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE MENTAL HEALTH IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF SERVICES AND THE MENTAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.	This concurrent resolution establishes the Behavioral and Mental Health Task Force to examine mental health in the State of Delaware and make recommendations for the improvement of services and the mental healthcare system.	7/1/2015
148	House Bill # 381 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PRE-AUTHORIZATION.	Patients struggle every day to receive necessary care, suffering symptoms longer than appropriate and encountering unnecessary stress factors as they engage in the complicated system of health insurance. One such factor is Pre-Authorization, a tool designed to save the money by making sure that care is necessary. For years patients and clinicians have been put through arduous appeals processes being told that they are necessary to keep costs down or worse, told after the fact that their care won't be paid for even when previously told otherwise. Yet, anecdotally, appeals to these decisions are nearly always granted after hours of staff and clinician time. Reliable data is difficult, if not impossible, to come by to evaluate if programs are worth the costs of time that they shift to the patient and clinician. This legislation requires greater transparency, efficiency, and fairness in pre-authorization programs.	07/13/2016
148	Senate Bill # 146	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE BOARD OF DENTISTRY AND DENTAL HYGIENE.	Section 1 of this bill updates the Delaware Code relating to the Delaware Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene regarding the qualifications of licensure for dental hygienists and dentists to eliminate pending criminal charges as a basis to deny an application. A pending criminal charge that may ultimately be dismissed or of which a person may be exonerated should not be a license application disqualifier. Section 2 of this bill adds a provision giving a licensed dentist or licensed dental hygienist the option to place his or her license on inactive status at the time of renewal instead of allowing the license to lapse. This bill would bring the Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene in line with most other board statutes that allow for inactive status.	7/19/2016
148	Senate Bill # 174 w/SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 16 AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE WITH RESPECT TO DRUG OVERDOSE FATALITIES.	This legislation creates a Drug Overdose Fatality Review Commission, similar to commissions that the state has in place to review child deaths and the deaths of domestic violence victims. The purpose of the Commission is to examine the facts and circumstances of deaths resulting from prescription opioid, fentanyl and heroin overdoses and make recommendations to the state based on those examinations as to how to prevent future overdose deaths.	4/21/2016

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148	Senate Bill # 192	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 20 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE SUPPLIES.	Under current law, an unlicensed person is only authorized to deliver medications to essential workers and their families. This legislation will expand and enhance the ability of the Division of Public Health to respond to public health emergencies requiring the distribution of medications, by expanding the personnel that can deliver medications through the use of unlicensed persons. This will also enable DPH to meet the requirements of the Center for Disease and Control (CDC), Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant and Strategic National Stockpile program, under which all States must be able to provide prophylactic medications such as antibiotics to Delaware's entire population within a 48 hour timeframe.	8/10/2016
148	Senate Bill # 238 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK.	This Act establishes a Delaware Health Care Claims Database to be administered and operated within the existing framework of the Delaware Health Information Network. Sixteen states have enacted legislation to create health care claims databases which are generally referred to as an "All Payer Claims Database" or a "Multi Payer Claims Database"...	7/21/2016
148	House Concurrent Resolution # 68	DIRECTING PREPARATION OF AN ESTIMATE FOR INCLUSION OF ABUSE DETERRENT FORMULATION TECHNOLOGIES FOR OPIOIDS IN STATE EMPLOYEE HEALTH PLAN AND MEDICAID COVERAGE.	This Concurrent Resolution directs the Controller General to prepare an estimate of costs for inclusion of abuse deterrent formulation technologies for opioids in the State Employee Health Plan and Medicaid formulary coverage in order to assist in the state's continuing efforts to eliminate prescription drug abuse.	4/20/2016
148	Senate Bill # 259	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO STERILE NEEDLE AND SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM.	The bill authorizes the Division of Public Health (DPH) to provide a Syringe Exchange Program (SEP) statewide. The bill lifts the geographic restriction on the program which is currently limited to the City of Wilmington, and expands the membership of the Oversight Committee to include statewide representation. The goal is to increase the program's flexibility in serving different areas of need as the challenge of managing heroin use and HIV transmission in Delaware is ever evolving.	8/11/2016
148	HS 1 for House Bill # 439 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE.	This legislation provides for network disclosure and transparency for insured individuals who may be provided non-emergency health care services from an out-of-network provider. The legislation states that an insured must be notified that a provider or facility may be an out-of-network provided or facility and given notice that the services may not be covered by an insured's health insurance plan. The legislation also requires health insurance companies maintain up to date and comprehensive provider directories. This legislation is modeled after the out-of-network language set forth National Association of Insurance Commissioner's Health Benefit Plan Network Access and Adequacy Model Act.	7/29/2016

## Education

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	HS for House Bill # 119 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE WITH RESPECT TO PUBLIC EDUCATION.	This Bill permits local districts substantially more discretion with respect to expenditure of state education funds than they have under existing law. However, the bill also establishes a number of safeguards to ensure that those funds are spent in a responsible manner that enhances student achievement, including state approval of local district budgets, a requirement of full transparency for local district expenditures, and the establishment of citizen financial oversight committees for each district.	8/13/2009
145	Senate Bill # 68 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND ACADEMIC PROMOTION.	This legislation eliminates the DSTP, and requires its replacement beginning in the 2010-2011 school year with a test administered at a minimum in each grade level 2 through 10 at the beginning of the school year and at least one more time later in the year, to assess student progress over the course of the year as well as providing a benchmark for student, school, and district achievement. This new testing regimen will allow a student's performance on state assessments to be based upon the student's best results from the multiple assessments performed during the year.	8/13/2009
145	Senate Bill # 140	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.	This Bill would reduce from 3 to 2 the number of residents from New Castle County outside the City of Wilmington on the State Board of Education, and would add an at large member. This change better reflects the current population of the three counties and provides the Governor with the flexibility to appoint an at large board member on the basis of qualifications, need or population shift.	6/18/2009
145	Senate Bill # 151	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO AN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM.	This Act creates a pilot Academic Achievement Awards program, which would use federal stimulus funds to make financial awards to schools that significantly close the achievement gap and schools that exceed their adequate yearly progress for two or more consecutive years. The awards are focused on schools that have high percentages of economically disadvantaged students.	8/13/2009
145	House Concurrent Resolution # 13	COMMENDING THE EFFORTS OF DELAWARE'S CHARTER SCHOOLS IN EDUCATING DELAWARE STUDENTS.	This Concurrent Resolution commends Delaware's public charter schools for their efforts in educating Delaware students	
145	Senate Bill # 108 w/SA 4	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 5 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TITLE LOANS AND SHORT-TERM CONSUMER LOANS.	Public Education Financial Decisions: Permits local districts substantially more discretion with respect to expenditure of state education funds than they have under existing law. However, the bill also establishes a number of safeguards to ensure that those funds are spent in a responsible manner that enhances student achievement, including state approval of local district budgets, a requirement of full transparency for local district expenditures and the establishment of citizen financial oversight committees for each district.	8/13/2009

## Education

145	Senate Bill # 41	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FOSTER CARE AND THE SEED PROGRAM.	Foster Care & the SEED Program: allow children who are leaving foster care to have access to the SEED scholarship, without the condition that they begin their higher education immediately after high school. This Act also allows them to attend school part-time. These exceptions are necessary because children aging out of foster care have the unique responsibility to support themselves and may not be able to follow the traditional timetable that children with the support of a more traditional family are able to follow.	5/18/2010
145	House Bill # 283	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING.	This bill creates certain rights for children who are deaf or hard of hearing in the Delaware School System.	9/10/2010
145	House Bill # 335	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 11 OF TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PERSONAL INCOME TAX RETURNS.	This Act directs the Secretary of Finance to develop the means by which individuals can deposit their State income tax return directly into a Delaware College Investment Plan account.	4/14/2010
145	House Bill # 399	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION.	This Bill will create the Inspire Scholarship Program. Inspire scholarships are available to Delaware students with excellent credentials and economic need to attend Delaware State University. The intent of this program is to increase the number of students in Delaware who attend college and complete degree programs. The amounts available to these grant recipients are subject to available funds and are capped at the grant amount available to SEED grant recipients. Inspire scholarship recipients must continue to make excellent academic progress toward a degree and must complete at least ten hours of community service per semester.	10/4/2010
145	Senate Resolution # 18	A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A TEACHER HIRING TASK FORCE.	This Resolution establishes a Teacher Hiring Task Force. The Task Force is to consider ways to hire teachers earlier in the calendar year.	6/30/2010
146	House Bill # 1 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNIT FUNDING	Needs Based Unit Funding: amends Title 14 of the Delaware Code, in order to fully adopt the needs based system for all nineteen districts and all charter schools in the state.	2/17/2011
146	House Bill # 19 w/HA 1 + SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10, 11, 16 AND 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DRUG-INVOLVED OFFENSES	Drug-Involved Offenses: alters existing criminal drug laws; among numerous other changes, modifies 'protected park or recreation area' definition to eliminate a protective zone around places of worship if the place of worship does not have a school or recreation area; modifies 'protected school zone' definition to a distance of 300 feet from a school. In this way, the drug-free zone will be better visible to dealers and serve as a deterrent to drug dealing near schools.	4/20/2011

## Education

146	House Bill # 42 w/HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.	This Act requires the Department of Education to promulgate uniform regulations related to school discipline to provide consistency across all districts and charter schools. The Act implements certain recommendations initiated through the Department of Education's Standardized School Code of conduct Policies Report, prepared in response to House Resolution Number 33 of the 145th General Assembly.	8/22/2011
146	House Bill # 205	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.	This legislation will assist the State to better ensure that charter schools being approved are of high quality, and to respond more appropriately when issues arise. To help ensure that individuals governing our charter schools have the appropriate background and qualifications, this legislation requires criminal background and child abuse registry checks for charter school board members, and it will prohibit individuals who have felony convictions or convictions for a crime against a child from serving on a charter board. Charter school board members will be required to disclose any financial interest they may have in the charter school, so that parents and others may learn and inquire about any financial arrangements benefiting a school board member. In addition, new charter schools would receive less funding at the start of the year, with the remainder of the funding provided throughout the year after a review by the Department to ensure that the finances of the school are sound. The legislation also requires an annual external audit of charter schools and adds charter schools to the Finance Recovery Team portion of the Delaware Code, which currently applies only to school districts, authorizing the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to appoint a team to assess the financial status of a charter school that is on formal review, to provide information to parents and teachers regarding status, and to make certain decisions regarding payments by the charter school.	8/19/2011

## Education

			<p>The legislation also moves up the deadline by which charter renewal decisions must be made so that, if a charter is not going to be renewed, that decision is made prior to the school choice deadline. And it creates a mechanism for permitting a high performing charter operator to open a school that would serve students at a charter school that is slated for closure, providing greater opportunities and avoiding significant disruption for the students. Using this provision, a highly successful charter school operator could apply for a new charter to serve the students at the closing charter school, and the applicant could be permitted to begin operating in less than the 18 months currently required between the filing of the application and the opening of the charter school. To facilitate this action, the legislation adds flexibility to board composition requirements, so that governing boards continue to have teacher and parent representation but are not required to have such representation from every school for which a charter is held. This legislation would also clarify that a request to change a charter school's authorizer (from the Department to a district or vice-versa) or to increase by more than 15% the number of students that may be served by a charter school is a major modification. Since modifications to increase the number of students served by a school can be implemented in 7 to 8 months, the legislation allows the authorizer to consider the impact that expanding enrollment of a charter school in the shortened timeframe will have on the traditional schools from which the students will be drawn.</p>	
146	Senate Bill # 78 w/SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE STATE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.	This Act makes changes to Delaware Code to reflect changes from the Delaware Student Testing program to the new state assessment system, including language changes removing the "DSTP" references and changes in test security because of the on line nature of the new Delaware Comprehensive Assessment (DCAS). In addition, it makes changes to simplify school accountability, including changing the number of school classification ratings from 5 to 3. This Act also removes references to items no longer relevant such as off grade annual assessments and extra time funding. In addition, the number of performance levels of the DCAS is 4 rather than 5.	6/22/2011
146	Senate Bill # 112 w/SA 1 + HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SUPPORTIVE INSTRUCTION.	This Bill empowers the Department of Education to adopt rules and regulations regarding eligibility for supportive instruction and which also provide for the identification of licensed professionals authorized to certify eligibility for supportive instruction.	7/13/2011
146	House Concurrent Resolution # 6	DECLARING MARCH 16, 2011 AS "COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF DELAWARE DAY."	This concurrent resolution declares March 16, 2011 as "Communities In Schools of Delaware Day" and calls upon the people of Delaware to become mentors, leaders and supporters in their local schools.	3/16/2011

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146	House Concurrent Resolution # 23	RECOGNIZING THE COMCAST FOUNDATION'S LEADERS AND ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND ITS DELAWARE RECIPIENTS FOR 2011.	This resolution recognizes the Comcast Foundation's Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program winners in Delaware for 2011. Every year, Comcast and the Comcast Foundation ask high school principals and guidance counselors to collaborate in identifying the best and the brightest high school seniors in their communities, including those across the State of Delaware, in order to recognize the students who best exemplify the ideals of the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program ("the Program"); and WHEREAS, the Program seeks to motivate young people to achieve their potential, encourage involvement in their schools, and act as catalysts for positive change in their communities; and WHEREAS, the Program awards recipients a one-time grant of \$1,000 to be used toward their pursuit of higher education.	6/23/2011
146	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 8	DESIGNATING APRIL 21, 2011 AS "TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	Establishes April 21, 2011 as Technology Education Day in the State of Delaware to emphasize the importance of technological literacy.	4/13/2011
146	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 20	EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF DELAWARE'S NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE.	This Resolution expresses support for outdoor activities for children to experience nature. Specifically, the Resolution supports the Delaware No Child left Inside/Children in Nature Initiative.	6/29/2011
146	Senate Resolution # 9	URGING AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT REDISTRICTING PROCESS WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.	This Senate Resolution declares the intent of the Senate to have the redistricting process open and transparent. Specifically, this Resolution calls for open meetings and opportunities for the public to be heard in the redistricting process.	3/23/2011
146	Senate Bill # 207 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EXCEPTIONAL PERSONS.	Exceptional Children: implements requirements under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act regarding the duty of school districts to locate, identify and evaluate all children in need of special education and related services.	8/13/2012
146	House Bill # 239 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 15, VOLUME 77 OF THE LAWS OF DELAWARE RELATING TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION.	This bill repeals the sunset provision included in Chapter 15, Volume 77 of the Laws of Delaware House Bill No. 102 of the 145th General Assembly. House Bill No. 102 authorized the Teach for America (TFA) program as an alternative route to teacher licensure and certification. The law was signed by the Governor on April 20, 2009 and will sunset on April 20, 2012. For the 2011-2012 school year, there are 46 TFA teachers working in 18 Delaware schools in three districts and six charter schools. <b>Those teachers contribute to the education of approximately 3,000 students.</b> Since its inception in Delaware, TFA has recruited, selected, trained, placed and supported 65 teachers.	3/22/2012

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146	House Bill # 243 w/HA 1, HA 2 + SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO REPORTING SCHOOL CRIMES.	This bill is a result of the work of the School Discipline Task Force. The bill simplifies the mandatory report requirements for schools, ensuring that the most serious offenses shall be reported to law enforcement while giving schools discretion to handle minor offenses without mandatory reporting. The bill also requires that all relevant special education and disciplinary records for students with disabilities, as defined under federal law, be sent to law enforcement to allow for informed charging decisions.	8/16/2012
146	House Bill # 248 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION.	This bill requires the Department of Education to provide a report to the General Assembly 3 months prior to the sunset date of the enabling legislation for the Teach for America program regarding the efficacy of that program. This will allow the General Assembly to make an informed decision regarding further extensions of Delaware's participation in the Teach for America program.	6/15/2012
146	House Concurrent Resolution # 47	PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 20 TO MAY 26, 2012 AS "TEEN FINANCIAL AWARENESS WEEK" IN DELAWARE.	This concurrent resolution proclaims the week of May 20 to May 26, 2012 as "Teen Financial Awareness Week" and requests school districts in the State to educate their students about financial awareness skills.	5/16/2012
146	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 29	COMMENDING THE WORK OF COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS AND CONNECTING GENERATIONS AND DESIGNATING MARCH 28, 2012 AS COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF DELAWARE AND CONNECTING GENERATIONS DAY.	This resolution commends the work of Communities in Schools and Connecting Generations the program that provides mentoring in our schools. It also designates March 28th to commemorate this program.	3/29/2012
146	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 33	DESIGNATING APRIL 26, 2012 AS "ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	Establishes April 26, 2012 as Engineering and Technology Education Day in the State of Delaware to emphasize the importance of technological literacy.	4/25/2012
147	House Bill # 24	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS.	This Bill implements recommendations from the Truancy Task Force by changing provisions of the Delaware Code regarding compulsory attendance and when a truancy case must be brought to the Truancy Court. Specifically, school attendance requirements shall apply to enrolled students through grade 12 and the school shall refer a case for prosecution after the 20th day of unexcused absence by a student. The amendments will provide for earlier intervention by the Court as well as providing a mechanism to address the needs of truant students past grade 5.	5/28/2013

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147	House Bill # 90 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT CHOICE PROGRAM.	<p>This bill updates the school choice program, which has not received substantive attention since 1998. This bill aims to make it easier for parents to navigate the choice process by standardizing application forms and deadlines across traditional and charter schools. More specifically, the bill requires all local education agencies to accept a standard application form provided by the Department of Education, which must be available on the Department's website. Further, the bill seeks to eliminate discrimination by districts against choice students by:</p> <p>(1) allowing districts to request supplemental application information from choice students only to the extent it requires the same information from attendance zone students; (2) limiting the supplemental criteria a receiving district may use to evaluate choice applications—after that, districts must use a lottery system; and (3) removing the provision that allows districts to reject applications of students with special needs. Districts would also be required to accept choice students until each school and/or program has reached 85% of its capacity. Districts would be required to hold a public information session about choice and enrollment opportunities by October 31 and report estimated capacity and projected enrollment information to the Department of Education by November 30; those estimates may be revised until January 30. Finally, the bill will create a task force to consider the current landscape of all school enrollment preferences to include magnet, vocational technical, and charter schools, and to develop recommendations as necessary.</p>	6/3/2013
147	House Bill # 165 w/HA 3	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS.	<p>This bill updates the State's charter school law to improve charter school accountability and support. More specifically, the bill raises the bar for starting charter schools with a pre-screening process, applicant interviews and additional opportunities to receive and use public input regarding the impact of new and expanded charter schools. Further, the bill increases charter flexibility and support, with ten year terms for high-performing charters, more timely allocation of funding, clear allowance of conduit financing, equalized minor capital funding, and creation of a charter school performance fund. Finally, the bill sets and enforces consistent expectations for charter schools, with authorizer-charter agreements, required plans for board member training, required provision of lunch to eligible students, clear closure protocols and a revised renewal process that is aligned to the charter performance frameworks.</p>	6/26/2013
147	Senate Bill # 9 w/SA 2 + HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CRIMINAL SENTENCES.	<p>This Act modifies Delaware's juvenile sentencing laws to bring those laws into compliance with decisions the United States Supreme Court issued in 2010 and 2012...</p>	6/4/2013

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147	Senate Bill # 27 w/SA 1 + HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ACCELERATED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS	This Act would authorize the Department of Education, pending available funds, to offer competitive two year start-up grants to public schools for the purpose of developing new programs for students capable of performing accelerated academic work.	6/30/2013
147	Senate Bill # 51 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, AND PREPARATION PROGRAMS.	This bill strengthens teacher preparation by raising the standards for entry into the teaching profession. More specifically, the bill requires all Delaware teacher preparation programs to set high admission and completion requirements, to provide high-quality student teaching experiences and ongoing evaluation of program participants, and to prepare prospective elementary school teachers in age-appropriate literacy and mathematics instruction. Further, the bill requires preparation programs to track and report data on the effectiveness of their programs. Finally, the bill requires new educators to pass both an approved content-readiness exam and performance assessment before receiving an initial license, and requires special education teachers to demonstrate content knowledge if they plan to teach in a secondary subject.	6/12/2013
147	Senate Bill # 147 w/SA 1, SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14, CHAPTER 5 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO REPORTING AND OVERSIGHT, INNOVATION, AND COLLABORATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS.	This bill encourages the sharing of best practices by requiring that charter schools include innovation information in their annual reports and that the Secretary of Education report on how successes at charter schools can be implemented throughout Delaware's public education system. It further establishes a "Committee for Promoting Charter-District Collaboration" to consider the current state of collaboration between public charter schools and traditional public schools and to develop recommendations for strengthening such collaboration.	7/18/2013
147	Senate Bill # 148	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14, CHAPTER 15 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TRANSPARENCY OF COMPETITIVE GRANTS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.	This bill promotes transparency in government spending relating to competitive grants administered by the Department of Education by requiring that the Department publish on its website the eligibility requirements, criteria and successful applications for every competitive grant it administers.	7/18/2013
147	House Resolution # 10	CREATING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING DELAWARE'S LAWS, REGULATIONS AND SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES RELATING TO TRUANCY, ARRESTS, SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS, AND ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENTS.	This House Resolution creates a Task Force to study Delaware's laws, regulations and school district policies relating to truancy, arrests, school suspensions and expulsions, and alternative placements. The Task Force shall prepare a report of its findings and recommendations by January 15, 2014.	6/6/2013
147	House Bill # 334	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATED TO EDUCATION.	This bill provides for the transition of the statewide student assessment system, the Delaware Comprehensive Student Assessment (DCAS), to the Smarter Balanced Assessment System (Smarter). Specifically, the bill removes references to multiple assessments.	7/1/2014

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147	House Bill # 267 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION.	Scholarship Awareness: requires public middle & high schools include information on SEED & Inspire scholarship programs in all printed and electronic communications about school activities.	6/18/2014
147	House Bill # 259	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 7, VOLUME 78, LAWS OF DELAWARE RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION.	This bill removes the sunset provision from the public education unit count law adopted in the first session of the 146th General Assembly. The provision, previously set to expire April 1, 2012, was extended two years by legislation in the second session of the 146th General Assembly. Removing the provision allows the law to continue permanently beyond April 1, 2014.	3/27/2014
147	House Bill # 267 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION.	This bill requires that public middle schools and high schools include information regarding the SEED and Inspire scholarship programs in all printed and electronic communications concerning school activities.	6/18/2014
147	House Bill # 334	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATED TO EDUCATION.	This bill provides for the transition of the statewide student assessment system, the Delaware Comprehensive Student Assessment (DCAS), to the Smarter Balanced Assessment System (Smarter). Specifically, the bill removes references to multiple assessments.	7/1/2014
147	House Bill # 337 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT CHOICE PROGRAM.	This bill promotes uniformity in the timing of the application process for school districts, charter schools, magnet schools, and career and technical education schools.	6/25/2014
147	Senate Bill # 209 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.	This bill requires the Department of Education to promulgate regulations to further define the meaning and process for consideration of impact in the charter school application review process, to be considered and approved by the State Board no later than its October 2014 meeting. It also clarifies the conditions that an authorizer may place on an approved application, and provides that the State Board of Education may place or modify conditions to address considerations of impact.	6/25/2014
147	Senate Bill # 229 w/SA 2, SA 3 + HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE EDUCATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	Section 1 of the Act would permit the state's most severely cognitively disabled students, with the consent of their parents, IEP teams, and school districts, to receive special exemptions from taking either of the state's standardized assessments. The academic progress of those students would still be measured in order to ensure that they are being challenged and provided meaningful instruction. Sections 2 and 3 of the Act attempt to ensure that evidence-based interventions are provided for young students who have dyslexia and related disabilities, to ensure that they are receiving necessary assistance in learning to read.	7/15/2014

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147	Senate Bill # 254 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE COMMITTEE TO ADVANCE EDUCATOR COMPENSATION AND CAREERS AND DEVELOP AN ALTERNATIVE COMPENSATION STRUCTURE AND CAREER PATHWAY FOR EDUCATORS IN DELAWARE.	Recognizing (1) that our educators are assuming greater levels of responsibility and demonstrating leadership in their classrooms and schools, (2) that our current educator compensation system does not reflect the work we value in our educators or provide them with a meaningful career pathway or ability to earn additional compensation for assuming additional responsibility, and (3) that we must retain and attract great educators to ensure that our students are prepared to compete in an increasingly global economy, this bill establishes parameters for an improved educator compensation system, the details of which will be developed by a Committee to Advance Educator Compensation and Careers. The Committee's work will involve an alternative compensation structure and career pathway for educators aligned with the parameters set forth in the bill, including providing educators with a meaningful career pathway, including higher starting salaries and recognition for working with high-needs students, and significant leadership opportunities for career advancement that keeps talented educators in the classroom. The Committee must submit its proposed plan to the Governor by November 15, 2014, for consideration for inclusion in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 2016.	7/1/2014
147	House Resolution # 23	CREATING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO SCHOOL RETENTION AND SOCIAL PROMOTION.	This Resolution creates a task force to study and provide alternative solutions to school retention and social promotion. The Speaker needs to appoint 2 members to the task force. The members recommended as Task Force participants were provided by the Department of Education. The task force shall report to the General Assembly and Governor by March 1, 2015.	6/24/2014
148	House Bill # 56 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.	This bill provides a moratorium on all new charter schools in Delaware until June 30, 2018 or until the State Board of Education develops a strategic plan for the number of charter, district, and vocational-technical schools in the State. Also, the bill requires review and comment from Wilmington's Mayor and City Council before either a local school district or the Department of Education approves a charter in the City of Wilmington. Lastly, the bill requires the local school board's approval for a charter school in the City of Wilmington before the Department of Education can approve the charter school.	5/5/2015
148	House Bill # 148 w/HA 1 + SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.	The purpose of this bill is to create the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission as recommended by the recent report on Strengthening Wilmington Education, prepared by the Wilmington Education Advisory Committee. The Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (WEIC) shall serve as a State advisory committee for the administration of planning, recommending and implementing changes to improve the quality and availability of education for children in Pre-K through 12 in the city of Wilmington and advise the State on improvements for all schools within the State with high concentrations of children living in poverty. Specifically, the WEIC will develop a transition plan, including a timeline, for	8/4/2015

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			<p>the provision of necessary services to affected schools and students. WEIC shall also develop a resource plan regarding transitional resources to effectively implement school district realignment. Both the transition plan and resource plan must be submitted first to the State Board of Education and then to the General Assembly and the Governor for final approval. Both are due for submission and related action by December 31, 2015. The membership of the WEIC will reflect broad interests throughout the Wilmington educational community including the leadership, staff, students and parents from the affected districts, charter schools, union representatives, , and community and government leaders. The WEIC mandate from the Governor and General Assembly is to work with and across all governmental agencies, educational entities and private and nonprofit institutions to promote and support the implementation of all recommended changes from the Wilmington Education Advisory Committee (WEAC). The WEIC also will also monitor the progress of implementation and recommend policies and actions to the Governor and General Assembly to facilitate progress and to promote the continuous improvement of public education on dimensions addressed by the WEAC recommendations.</p>	
148	Senate Bill # 122	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14, CHAPTER 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATION AND THE REORGANIZATION AND CHANGING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES.	School District Boundaries: Gives State Board of Education authority to change school district boundaries in New Castle County consistent with the final report of the Wilmington Education Advisory Group after public hearings and authority to approve a transition, resource & implementation plan. Redistricting proposal and transition plan must be passed by General Assembly & Joint Resolution signed by Governor.	8/4/2015
148	House Bill # 116	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES.	Re-Entry Education: Makes DSCYF Education Unit a LEA for limited purposes such as allowing teachers to apply for federal, state or private loan forgiveness programs, allowing Unit to apply for federal, state, or private grants & allowing the Unit to issue credits to youth who finish classes while in DSCYF care & educated by Unit.	6/30/2015
148	Senate Joint Resolution 4	ESTABLISHING THE EDUCATION FUNDING IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE DELAWARE'S SYSTEM FOR FUNDING PUBLIC EDUCATION.	While Delaware is deeply committed to preparing every child to reach his or her full potential and succeed in the new economy, the State will not be able to build a world-class education system for its children without modernizing the 70-year-old education funding system. This Joint Resolution establishes the Education Funding Improvement Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of Delaware's public education funding system and make recommendations to modernize and strengthen the system. The Commission will include stakeholders from across the education system and will submit a report and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly no later than March 31, 2016.	8/4/2015

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148	Senate Joint Resolution 17	AFFIRMING THE DECISION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO APPROVE THE PLAN OF THE WILMINGTON EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING CONTINUED WORK BY THE COMMISSION.	This Senate Joint Resolution affirms the decision of the State Board of Education to approve the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission's Plan ("the Plan") and supports the continued work of the Commission in developing details of implementation of the Plan. It also recognizes that the Plan will require necessary and sufficient funding to achieve the goals laid out in the Plan for redistricting and improving student outcomes. In the absence of necessary and sufficient funding support for the Plan in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget, this Senate Joint Resolution does not fulfill the condition of § 1026(d)(1) of Title 14 that the General Assembly pass and the Governor sign a joint resolution supporting the proposed changes to school district boundaries in New Castle County and does not constitute final approval of the transition and resources plan required under § 1008(g) of Title 14. The General Assembly and the Governor anticipate that a joint resolution fulfilling those conditions be further considered after additional development of the details of implementation of the Plan.	8/3/2016
148	House Bill # 358 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 14, 16, AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE ABLE PROGRAM, THE DELAWARE COLLEGE INVESTMENT PLAN, AND THE DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN.	The Deferred Compensation Plan, the Achieving a Better Life Experience ("ABLE") Program, and the Delaware College Investment Plan are each overseen by a separate board or council; and each of the foregoing programs and plans share many of the same core characteristics and involve comparable oversight functions; and the administration of the programs and plans can be improved for participants by consolidating and combining their boards into a single "Plans Management Board"; and the proposed Plans Management Board will be best constituted to determine the most appropriate means by which to implement Delaware's ABLE Program.	6/30/2016
148	House Joint Resolution # 4 w/HA 1, HA 2, HA 3	ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE FINDINGS CONCERNING FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION IN DELAWARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND MAKE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE THE FINANCIAL LITERACY OF DELAWARE STUDENTS.	Many students in Delaware schools are failing to receive the education and training that is required to achieve the financial literacy required to be productive citizens. This joint resolution is designed to establish a task force to study and make findings concerning financial literacy education in Delaware. The task force will also make policy and program recommendations that will help increase the financial literacy of our students.	2/1/2016
148	House # Resolution 29	DESIGNATING MAY 4, 2016, AS "4-H DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	This House Resolution designates May 4, 2016, as "4-H Day" in the State of Delaware and calls upon Delaware's citizens to recognize the many contributions of the State's 4-H programs.	5/4/2016
148	House # Resolution 39	ESTABLISHING THE STATEWIDE AFTERSCHOOL INITIATIVE LEARNING TASK FORCE.	This resolution creates the Statewide Afterschool Initiative Learning Task Force.	6/29/2016

## Early Care and Education

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	House Concurrent Resolution # 15	PROCLAIMING MAY 6, 2009, "EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS APPRECIATION DAY".	This Concurrent Resolution proclaims May 6, 2009, "Early Child Care and Education Professionals Appreciation Day". Early childhood educators and child care professionals are dedicated, tireless workers who are on the front lines to assist in strengthening communities and supporting families throughout the State of Delaware. <sup>2</sup>	
145	House Bill # 199 w/HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS.	Developmental Screening of Infants and Toddlers: Requires that private health insurers in Delaware cover the developmental screenings for infants and toddlers that are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Delaware Early Childhood Council. Such screenings are already covered for children in the state's Medicaid program. The estimated cost to policyholders of covering these screenings is three cents per member per month.	8/27/2009
145	House Bill # 470	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.	<p>This Act updates the Delaware Code in relation to the responsibilities of the Interagency Management Resource Committee (IRMC) and the Early Childhood Council (ECC), and aligns the ECC with new federal requirements for State Early Childhood Advisory Committees. After a dormant period, the IRMC is operating again, as originally conceived, and carrying out responsibilities in accordance with the Delaware Code and those added through Epilogue language. The ECC is now operating in coordination with the IRMC, as originally conceived, and preparing to adjust membership and adopt responsibilities that will carry forward the State's early childhood plan and align it with federal guidelines through the Head Start Act. In addition to the immediate value of the effective operation of the IRMC and the ECC, the updates will position Delaware for success in seeking federal funding to promote improvements in early childhood care and education. In the short term, this will be achieved through a planning grant to the ECC under the Head Start legislation. In the mid-term, this will be achieved through Delaware's application for federal early childhood challenge grants that were originally proposed by the Obama administration at twice the funding level of Race-to-the-Top.</p> <p>In relation to the IRMC, this Act will: (1) Incorporate language from the Epilogue into the Delaware Code; (2) broaden the responsibility and authority of the IRMC and move from focusing on students having developmental disabilities to early childhood more generally; and (3) add the Chair of the ECC as an ex officio, non-voting member. In relation to the IRMC, this Act will: (1) Modify the membership of the ECC to comply with Head Start requirements, generally adding public sector State representatives to what previously was an entirely private/non-profit sector representation, increasing membership from 17 to 19 members plus ex officio members; (2) confirm advisory functions to the Governor, the General Assembly and IRMC that are consistent with the</p>	7/12/2010

<sup>2</sup> Occurs every year

## Early Care and Education

			State's strategic plan for early childhood, Early Success; and (3) confirm responsibilities that enable the ECC to meet federal requirements for the State's Early Childhood Advisory Committee. These updates encumber no additional financial commitments from the State, but will enable Delaware to be more competitive in seeking federal funding.	
145	House Concurrent Resolution # 26	PROCLAIMING MARCH 17, 2010, "EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS APPRECIATION DAY".	This Concurrent Resolution proclaims March 17, 2010, "Early Child Care and Education Professionals Appreciation Day". Early childhood educators and child care professionals are dedicated, tireless workers who assist in strengthening communities and supporting families throughout the State of Delaware.	3/17/2010
146	House Bill # 213	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL DATA GOVERNANCE.	This Act allows the Department of Education to conduct audits and evaluations, including studies for improving instruction and complying with State and federal accountability measures; to collect data to effectuate those activities; and to promulgate regulations to govern the collection and use of educational records, including those in the longitudinal database. The intent of the legislation is to also provide for the ability of other researchers to access the interagency database for approved research studies through defined processes and through the oversight of the P-20 Council. This Act also expands membership of the P-20 Council.	7/13/2011
146	Senate Bill # 132	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE CHILD CARE ACT.	This bill is a result of recommendations made by the Joint Sunset Committee and establishes a Provider Advisory Board. This Board shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Office of Child Care Licensing with regard to adopting, promulgating and amending such rules and regulations as are required to carry out the Delaware Child Care Act with respect to Early Care and Education and School Age Centers.	7/25/2011
146	House Resolution # 11	DECLARING APRIL 12, 2011 AS EARLY DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING DAY.	This House Resolution declares April 12, 2011 as Early Developmental Screening Day.	04/06/2011
146	House Bill # 317 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN READINESS.	This bill provides that the Department of Education shall through Rules and Regulations establish a statewide readiness tool that will review a child's readiness for learning when they enter kindergarten. The tool will be phased in starting in Fall 2012 with statewide implementation no later than Fall 2015.	6/19/2012
146	Senate Bill # 172 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO P-20 COUNCIL	This bill adds a parent representative, the President of the Delaware Parent Teacher Association, to the P-20 Council.	5/3/2012

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147	House Bill # 366 w/HA 1, HA 1 to HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILD CARE.	This bill allows a licensee or a potential licensee of Child Care to appeal a decision by the Secretary of DSCYF to revoke, suspend or deny their application for a license. This appeal would go to Superior Court on the record and pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act. Currently, there is no direct appeal right to Superior Court for a licensee or potential licensee. The bill also makes minor changes to the administrative hearings, to bring them into compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act. Finally, the bill codifies the process for when a licensee has their license suspended or revoked. The process laid out in this bill is already the process set forth in the <b>Office of Childcare Licensing</b> regulations and procedures manual.	7/21/2014
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# Employability

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	House Bill # 170	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.	<p>Section 1 of this Act provides an alternate claim base period for individuals who have not earned sufficient wages in the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters base period to become monetarily eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. The alternate base period will be the four most recent completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the effective date of the claimant’s unemployment insurance claim.</p> <p>Section 2 of this Act clarifies that an individual’s “family” means the individual’s spouse, child under the age of 18, or parent.</p> <p>Section 3 of this Act provides that an individual who quits work in order to accompany their spouse to a place from which it is impractical for the individual to commute and due to a change in location of their spouse’s employment, will not be disqualified from the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for this reason.</p> <p>Section 4 of this Act provides that an individual, who quits work to care for their spouse, child under the age of 18, or parent with a verified illness or disability, will not be disqualified from the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for this reason.</p> <p>Section 5 of this Act provides that an individual who is discharged from work as the result of providing notice to their employer of the intent to quit work to accompany their spouse to a place from which it is impractical for such individual to commute and due to a change in location of the spouse’s employment will not be disqualified from the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for this reason.</p> <p>Section 6 of this Act provides that an individual who is discharged from work as a result of the individual providing care for their spouse, child under the age of 18, or parent with a verified illness or disability will not be disqualified from the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for this reason.</p> <p>Section 7 of this Act provides that an individual, who is discharged from work due to circumstances directly resulting from the individual's experience of domestic violence, will not be disqualified from the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for this reason.</p>	7/1/2009

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Section 8 of this Act provides that an individual who refuses a referral to or offer of full-time work shall not be disqualified from the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for this reason if the individual is permitted to seek only part-time work under the provisions of § 3315(3) of Title 19, Delaware Code.

Section 9 of this Act provides that no individual shall be determined ineligible for the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits for any week in which they seek only part-time work, if the majority of weeks of work in their unemployment insurance claim base period were in part-time employment.

Section 10 of this Act establishes the provisions of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 shall apply to new claims filed for unemployment insurance benefits with an effective date of January 3, 2010 or later. Upon enactment of this Act, pursuant to the provisions of The Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, Title II of Division B of Public Law No. 111-5, enacted February 17, 2009, the state will be eligible to apply for and receive \$21,868,398 from the federal government for Delaware's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund in Calendar Year 2009.

145	Senate Bill # 121	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 6, 9, 18, 19, 25, AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, HOUSING, EQUAL ACCOMMODATIONS AND THE INSURANCE BUSINESS.	This Act adds the term "sexual orientation" to the already-existing list of prohibited practices of discrimination. As such, this Act would forbid discrimination against a person on the basis of sexual orientation in housing, employment, public works contracting, public accommodations, and insurance. In addition, this Act would establish that the Superior Court, in the first instance, would hear and adjudicate alleged criminal violations under the Act of equal accommodations, fair housing and employment discrimination.	7/2/2009
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## Employability

145	Senate Bill # 156	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 33, TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.	<p>The Extended Benefits (EB) program is a permanent program required by federal law, started in 1970, that provides weeks of extended unemployment benefits to states experiencing high levels of unemployment, as defined by certain unemployment rate “triggers”. The state “triggers” on to 13 weeks of EB if the state’s IUR (insured unemployment rate) exceeds 5.0% and is 120.0% higher than it was during the same period in both of the prior two calendar years. The EB program is paid 100.0% from the state’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for week 1 of EB since Delaware unemployment insurance law does not provide for a waiting week period and 50.0% from the state’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and 50.0% by the federal government for weeks 2 through 13 of EB. There is no federal payment for EB paid to individuals based on wages from state and local governmental entities unless the state or local governmental entity has elected to pay unemployment insurance assessments pursuant to Section 3345 (7), Title 19, Delaware Code. Those state and local governmental entities electing the reimbursement option in lieu of unemployment insurance assessments must pay 100.0% of the cost of such EB payments. However, the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, Title II of Division B of Public Law No. 111-5, enacted February 17, 2009, provides that if a state enacts an optional EB trigger based on the TUR (total unemployment rate), all weeks of EB, except EB paid to individuals based on wages from state and local governmental entities that have elected the reimbursement option in lieu of unemployment insurance assessments pursuant to Section 3345 (7), Title 19, Delaware Code, will be paid 100.0% from federal funds through the week ending January 2, 2010. Those state and local governmental entities electing the reimbursement option in lieu of unemployment insurance assessments pursuant to Section 3345 (7), Title 19, Delaware Code must continue to pay 100.0% of the cost of such EB payments. The state “triggers” on to EB for 13 weeks with the TUR “trigger” if the total unemployment rate for the most recent 3 months equals or exceeds 6.5% and the average rate of total unemployment in the state for the most recent 3-month period equals or exceeds 110 percent of such average for either or both of the corresponding 3-month periods ending in the two preceding calendar years. The state “triggers” on to EB for 20 weeks with the TUR “trigger” if the total unemployment rate for the most recent 3 months equals or exceeds 8.0% and the average rate of total unemployment in the state for the most recent 3-month period equals or exceeds 110 percent of such average for either or both of the corresponding 3-month periods ending in the 2 preceding calendar years. This Act establishes a TUR “trigger” for EB and has a “sunset provision” to end the TUR “trigger” when the 100.0% federal funding for EB ends on January 2, 2010. Unemployed Delaware workers will be eligible to receive up to 26 weeks of regular state unemployment insurance benefits, 20 weeks of federally funded Tier 1 EUC (Emergency Unemployment Compensation), 13 weeks of federally funded Tier 2 EUC, and then an additional 13 to 20 weeks of EB, depending on the “TUR” (total unemployment rate).</p>	6/24/2009
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# Employability

145	House Bill # 380	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES.	This proposed tax credit intends to create incentives for existing businesses to partner with the State in the effort to create new employment opportunities for Delaware citizens, and to stimulate the Delaware economy by expanding the tax base. A finder's fee, a tool used commonly by businesses, is an arrangement by which an intermediary finds, introduces, and brings together parties to a business opportunity. This bill creates a tax credit program that would award each Sponsor Firm and each New Business Firm with a \$500 annual tax credit per Delaware job created by the new business, with the tax credit available for three years. The program would require that the new business be brought to Delaware as a result of the efforts of the sponsor, and would specifically exclude those business, such as real estate agents, banks and commercial landlords, that already have an incentive to bring out-of-state business to Delaware.	6/16/2010
145	HS 1 for House Bill # 230 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LABOR	<p>This Act applies to the construction services industry and provides for administrative remedies and civil penalties against an employer who knowingly misclassifies an employee as an independent contractor when an employer-employee relationship exists according to the criteria set forth in Section 3501. State and federal government agencies, sole proprietors and single-member corporate or business entities are exempt from the requirements of this Act. Section 3503 sets forth the acts prohibited. Specifically, it prohibits an employer from knowingly misclassifying an employee as an independent contractor unless the employee or individual is exempt from the Act. Similarly, it prohibits an employer or person from knowingly incorporating or forming a corporation or other business entity for the purpose of evading the provisions of the Act. Section 3504 sets forth the duties of the Department of Labor to enforce the Act. The Department is given the authority to investigate, as necessary, to determine compliance with the Act. Its investigation powers include the authority to conduct an on-site inspection of an employer's business records, to require an employer to provide certain information, and to administer oaths, issue subpoenas and examine witnesses to determine whether a violation occurred. Section 3504 also permits the Department of Labor to, following administrative review, institute actions in the Superior Court for penalties for any violation of the Act.</p> <p>Section 3505 enumerates the applicable penalties for violations of this Act, including civil penalties for failure to properly classify an employee, and potential administrative penalties, including fines and a stop-work order, for an employer who refuses to produce to the Department of labor certain requested materials within 30 days of the request. An employer who is found by a final order of a court or the Department to have violated this Chapter twice in a two year period is subject to an administrative penalty of \$20,000 and possible debarment. Section 3506 prohibits waiver of the provisions of this Act by contract or agreement. Section 3507 authorizes the Department of Labor to collaborate with other State agencies and share information concerning any potential violations of this Act. Section 3508 allows an employee who alleges a violation of certain provisions of the Act to, after notifying the employer, file an action in the Superior Court for declaratory relief or monetary damages. Section 3509 prohibits employers from</p>	7/31/2009

## Employability

			retaliating against any individual who files a complaint or provides information to the Department pursuant to this Act. Section 3510 establishes certain procedures that the Department must follow for notifying a public body after it finds a violation by an employer working on a public works project. Section 3511 provides that employers must keep certain records of employees and of independent contractors and must provide specific notice to each person classified as an independent contractor or exempt person. Section 3512 gives the Department the authority to adopt regulations as necessary to enforce this Act. Section 3513 provides that all civil penalties and other revenue collected pursuant to this Act shall be deposited into the General Fund.	
145	Senate Bill # 209 w/SA 1 + HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE PROVIDING FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT ACT.	This Act provides for a 10-year extension to the Historic Preservation Tax Credit Act which is scheduled to expire in June 2010. Seventy-five (75) historic buildings throughout the State have been rehabilitated and preserved for future generations as a result of this program. Since its inception in 2001, the State has awarded \$34 million in tax credits that have leveraged more than \$166 million in private-sector rehabilitation expenditures plus additional tens of millions in site acquisition investments. <b>These investments have produced an estimated 2,400 jobs in Delaware – most of them in the construction trades and related industries.</b>	7/19/2010
145	House Concurrent Resolution # 35	ESTABLISHING APRIL 20, 2010 AS "EQUAL PAY DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.	This Resolution designates Tuesday, April 20, 2010 as "Equal Pay Day" in the State of Delaware. <sup>3</sup>	
146	Senate Bill # 7	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 33, TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.	Unemployment Compensation: establishes a three year "look back" for the total unemployment rate (TUR) trigger for extended benefits (EB) retroactive to December 18, 2010. Under the previous two year look back TUR trigger, the state would have most likely triggered off EB in April of CY 2011 and long-term unemployed individuals would no longer be eligible for these 100% federally funded benefits.	2/15/2011
146	House Bill # 129	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 29 AND 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITY TAX RATES AND THE USE OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF	This Act reduces the general public utility tax rate on electricity and gas from 5.00% to 4.25%. The Act also reduces the rate on electricity and gas distributed to manufacturers, food processors and other agribusinesses from 2.35% to 2.00%. The Act also transfers the first \$5 million in proceeds generated by the public utility tax to the new Energy Efficiency Investment Fund, <b>which will be used to finance energy efficiency projects that will reduce overall energy use and create jobs.</b>	7/1/2011

<sup>3</sup> Occurs every year

## Employability

146	Senate Bill # 7	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 33, TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.	This Act establishes a three year "look-back" for the TUR (total Unemployment Rate) trigger for EB (Extended Benefits) retroactive to December 18, 2010. Under the current two year look-back TUR trigger, the State will most likely trigger off EB in April of CY 2011 and long-term unemployed individuals would no longer be eligible for these 100.0% federally funded benefits.	2/15/2011
146	House Resolution # 36	RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF FOSTERING LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND THE SPIRIT OF PUBLIC SERVICE IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF DELAWARE WOMEN AND URGING THE EXPANSION OF THE GIRLS STATE PROGRAM.	This House Resolution recognizes the important of fostering women leaders and urges the expansion of the Girls State program.	6/30/2012
147	House Bill # 91	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.	This Bill brings Delaware's unemployment insurance law into compliance with federal law, Public Law 112-40, which requires that an employer's unemployment insurance tax account cannot be relieved of charges for an unemployment insurance claim if the employer or the employer's agent fails to provide the Department of Labor specified information in a timely manner or provides inadequate information for the Department to make a determination of eligibility and as a result, unemployment insurance benefits are erroneously paid to an individual.	7/1/2013
147	House Bill # 172 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ELECTRICIANS AND THE PERFORMANCE OF ELECTRICAL WORK BY AN UNLICENSED PERSON.	This bill ensures that new applicants for a journeyperson electrician license must have performed 8000 hours of electrical work and passed the journeyperson exam before such person can obtain a journeyperson electrician license. The bill also requires employers, supervisors and owners of businesses to report to the Board if they have knowledge that a person working for them is unlicensed. Furthermore, the bill requires employers, supervisors and/or owners of a business to ensure that a person performing electrical work for them has a proper electrical license.	7/3/2013
147	Senate Bill # 97 w/HA 1, HA 1 to HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 6, 9, 11, 18, 19, 25, AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO HATE CRIMES AND DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, HOUSING, EQUAL ACCOMMODATIONS, AND THE INSURANCE BUSINESS ON THE BASIS OF GENDER IDENTITY.	This Act adds the term "gender identity" to the already-existing list of prohibited practices of discrimination and hate crimes. As such, this Act would forbid discrimination against a person on the basis of gender identity in housing, employment, public works contracting, public accommodations, and insurance, and it would provide for increased punishment of a person who intentionally selects the victim of a crime because of the victim's gender identity.	6/19/2013
147	Senate Bill # 212 w/SA 1, SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PREGNANCY AND EMPLOYMENT.	Pregnancy: addresses pregnancy accommodations and clarifies that prohibitions against sex discrimination in employment includes pregnancy.	9/9/2014

## Employability

147	House Bill # 373 w/HA 1, HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 18 AND 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE.	Worker's Compensation: amends Title 18 and 19 of Delaware Code designed to control the level of workers' compensation premiums in Delaware.	7/15/2014
147	House Bill # 167 w/HA 1, HA 1 to HA 1, HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 19 AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE WITH REGARD TO EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES.	This bill would prohibit a public employer from inquiring into or considering the criminal record, criminal history or credit history or score of an applicant before it makes a conditional offer to the applicant. It would permit inquiry and consideration of criminal background after the conditional offer has been made. The bill specifies that once a background check is conducted an employer shall only consider felonies for 10 years from the completion of sentence, and misdemeanors for 5 years from the completion of sentence. Further, employers are required to consider several enumerated factors when deciding whether to revoke a conditional offer based on the results of a background check. Police forces, the Department of Corrections and other positions with a statutory mandate for background checks are excluded from these provisions. The bill also requires contractors with State agencies to employ similar policies where not in conflict with other State or federal requirements.	5/8/2014
148	House Bill # 4 w/HA 1, HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION.	Employment Discrimination: Expressly prohibits employment discrimination based on surviving sexual assault, domestic violence or stalking. Requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations, which may include re-purposing accrued leave designated for different purpose.	6/30/2015
148	House Bill # 3 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO STATE PROCUREMENT.	This bill requires that employers receiving contracts from the State shall certify in that contract that, in addition to already mandated fair business practices, the contractor shall ensure that its employees receive equal pay for equal work without regard to sex. The language permits pay differentials when they are based on a seniority system, merit system, or where pay is based on production factors.	6/30/2015
148	Senate Resolution # 10	ESTABLISH THE WORK-A-DAY EARN-A-PAY PUBLIC WORK PROJECT PILOT PROGRAM TASK FORCE.	This Resolution establishes a "Delaware Works Strategic Fund" pilot program Task Force to consider a fund a pilot WDEP. This public works program would create jobs for Delawareans ready, willing and able to work and unable to find long term employment. The goal is a full-time, long-term job.	7/1/2015

## Employability

148	Senate Bill # 221	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DELAWARE TAX CREDITS.	This Act is designed to further promote the purpose of 16 Del. C. Chapter 96 (as amended). The intent is to advance the number of work opportunities made available to Delawareans with disabilities beyond those offered through State Use Law by presenting employers incentives to employ this under-represented workforce. State Use Law is a publically supported employment program that serves to create employment to qualified persons with disabilities. By virtue of this Act, the spirit and purpose of State Use as a means to develop the skills necessary to gain employment in the private sector will be further enhanced and more employment outcomes will be realized for the population of persons with disabilities served by Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies. This legislation is patterned on legislation enacted in 2012 (H.B. No. 275) which authorized a similar tax credit for employers hiring qualified veterans.	8/29/2016
148	House Bill # 346 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO COSMETOLOGY AND BARBERING.	Licensure Exemption: Creates a licensure exemption in cosmetology & barbering for individuals engaged in low risk activity which does not require regulation. Also gives authority to establish training standards for advanced practice techniques.	7/19/2016
148	House Bill # 314 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES.	This bill makes it an unlawful employment practice for an employer to require an employee to not disclose his or her wages.	6/30/2016
148	House Bill # 316 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH DECISIONS.	This bill prohibits discrimination in employment based upon an individual's reproductive health decisions. Delaware laws currently prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex or pregnancy; however, this legislation makes it clear that an employer is expressly prohibited from taking adverse employment action against an individual based on his or her reproductive health care decisions. This bill does not create any new obligations or change any existing obligations related to insurance coverage of reproductive health care. This bill seeks to ensure that all workers should be judged on their performance at work, as opposed to their personal reproductive health care decisions.	6/30/2016
148	House Bill # 317 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES.	This bill prohibits discrimination in employment based upon an individual's caregiving responsibilities. Workers should be judged on the merits of their performance at work, not their responsibilities at home. Five states and over 90 localities prohibit discrimination based on family responsibilities to some degree. This bill ensures Delaware workers with responsibilities for child care, elder care, or both, receive equal employment opportunities and are protected from discrimination in the workplace.	6/30/2016
148	Senate Bill # 214	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT.	This Act increases the amount of time provided to a person seeking to file a charge of employment discrimination from 120 days to 300 days, making Delaware's statute of limitation consistent with the statute of limitations under federal discrimination law.	7/19/2016

## Economic Opportunity

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	House Bill # 96	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF MORTGAGE SATISFACTIONS BY A COMMISSIONER.	This bill eliminates the appointment of a Mortgage Commissioner by the Superior Court of Kent County. This bill applies only to Kent County.	5/27/2009
145	House Bill # 232	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEBT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.	This Bill clarifies that the Debt Management Services Act is intended to regulate providers who negotiate terms or concessions related to an individual's unsecured debt. Businesses offering to negotiate modification of mortgage loans on behalf of individuals with homes in foreclosure are required to comply with provisions of the "Mortgage Rescue Fraud Protection Act" in 6 Del. C. Chapter 24B.	10/5/2009
145	HS 1 for House Bill # 268	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 5, TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PROCEDURE, ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.	Section 1 is intended to establish a Voluntary Compliance Initiative for eligible taxes administered by the Division of Revenue for a period running from September 1, 2009 through October 30, 2009. Any taxpayer who has a current outstanding liability for tax periods before January 1, 2009 and makes payment during the Initiative period or enters into a payment plan and makes payment before June 30, 2010 will have penalty and interest for late filing the return waived. Any non-filer who files returns will have any tax, penalty and interest for non-filed returns for any period prior to January 1, 2004 waived. Section 2 is intended to remove the 50% limitation on the penalty for failure to file timely tax returns. Section 3 is intended to remove the 75% limitation on the penalty for any fraudulent tax returns. Sections 4, 5 and 6 change the period for which interest accrues on an amended refund to 46 days after the receipt of the amended tax return. Previously interested accrued 46 days after the original return was filed, which could have been three years earlier.	7/1/2009

## Economic Opportunity

145	Senate Bill # 108 w/SA 4	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 5 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TITLE LOANS AND SHORT-TERM CONSUMER LOANS.	Section 1 of this Act provides protection for consumers of a short-term loan product commonly known as a title loan, under which a borrower provides a motor vehicle as collateral for the loan. The Act requires conspicuous disclosure of significant terms of such loans, provides a right of rescission for such loans, and limits the duration of an extension of a loan that a consumer can receive, thereby ensuring that consumers do not mistakenly attempt to use these loans for long-term borrowing. The Act also requires that a lender offer a workout agreement to a consumer, limits the duration and amount of interest that can be charged when a loan is in default, and mandates compliance with certain federal and state consumer protection acts. The lender's recourse on a title loan is limited to the proceeds from the sale of the motor vehicle, and the lender is required in all cases to provide the borrower with a written explanation of the proceeds from the sale. Section 2 of this Act provides that lenders licensed by the State Bank Commissioner pursuant to Chapter 22 of Title 5 shall pay an annual high-cost loan license fee surcharge of \$1,500 for each licensed office for making title loans or short-term consumer loans, commonly known as pay-day loans. Such fees shall be used to fund the creation of the <b>Financial Literacy Education Fund</b> under the administration of the State Banking Commissioner and Secretary of Education to be used to fund financial literacy education programs for consumers and in our schools.	7/16/2009
146	House Bill # 128	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE AND CHAPTER 77, VOLUME 77 OF THE LAWS OF DELAWARE RELATING TO TAXES ON PERSONAL INCOME.	Personal Income Tax Rate: reduces from 6.95% to 6.75% the personal income tax rate on the taxable income in excess of \$60,000 and maintains the 2014 sunset, which returns the top rate to 5.95%.	7/1/2011
146	House Bill # 289 w/HA 1, HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 5 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LOANS.	This bill limits to five the number of short-term consumer loans (sometimes called payday loans) that any one borrower may obtain in a twelve month period. It changes the definition of short-term consumer loan to include loans up to \$1000 rather than \$500. The bill also provides for establishment of a database to track the number of short-term consumer loans an individual has obtained in a twelve month period. Finally, the Banking Commissioner is directed to provide a report on the prevalence and nature of these payday loans to the General Assembly.	6/27/2012

## Economic Opportunity

146	Senate Bill # 271	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE SUBCHAPTER IX OF TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TAX CREDITS.	This Act expands the New Economy Jobs Program by creating another means by which employers relocating jobs to Delaware may qualify for the tax credit. Under this Act, employers that relocate at least 200 jobs to Delaware will be entitled to a tax credit equal to 25% of the withholding paid by the employer on behalf of the relocated employees. If employers relocate more than 200 jobs, the size of the tax credit increases and can reach 40% if the employer relocates 500 or more employees. The Act also maintains incentives for relocating jobs into municipalities, targeted growth areas and counties, and on to redeveloped brownfields. Altogether, the maximum tax credit can reach 65% of the withholding paid on behalf of the relocated employees.	8/13/2012
146	Senate Bill # 273	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT.	The current definition of income used in the calculation of child support payments is limited to periodic payments and does not include occasional lump sum payments received by support obligors. These amendments broaden the definition of "income" to include a lump sum payment and allows the Division of Child Support Enforcement to issue an income withholding order against the lump sum payment to pay arrears or retroactive support. As with all income withholding orders, the Consumer Credit Protection limits apply to a lump sum income withholding order.	7/5/2012
146	House Resolution # 31	PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MAY AS COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH.	This resolution proclaims May to be Community Action Month in Delaware. <sup>4</sup>	5/15/2012
147	House Bill # 50	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TAXES ON PERSONAL INCOME.	Tax Rate: establishes a tax rate of 6.6% on taxable income in excess of \$60,000.	3/28/2013
147	Senate Bill # 92	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE CLEAN CREDIT AND IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT	Identity Theft: reduces the fee for an initial security freeze.	7/15/2013
147	House Bill # 175	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 18 AND 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.	This Act implements the legislative recommendations of the Workers' Compensation Task Force, created by House Joint Resolution 3 to recommend improvements to Delaware's workers' compensation system to address the double-digit increases in workers' compensation rates Delaware saw in 2011 and 2012...	6/27/2013

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<sup>4</sup> Occurs every year

## Economic Opportunity

147	Senate Bill # 84	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE TAX CREDIT.	The Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit program has brought about significant investment in neighborhood organizations, benefitting low and moderate income individuals living in impoverished areas and catalyzing partnerships among community-based development organizations, government, and the private sector. This bill seeks to increase the number of individuals and businesses that can take advantage of available tax credits, thereby equalizing opportunity for receipt of tax benefits and broadening the base of support for neighborhood organizations, by: (1) lowering the maximum annual tax credit and (2) capping the total amount of tax credits that an individual or business may receive over a three-year period.	7/3/2013
147	Senate Bill # 6 w/SA 2 + HA	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE MINIMUM WAGE.	Minimum wage: increases minimum wage to \$7.75 per hour effective July 1, 2014 and \$8.25 per hour effective July 1, 2015.	1/30/2014
147	House Bill # 373 w/HA 1, HA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 18 AND 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE.	This Act makes substantial changes to Titles 18 and 19 of the Delaware Code designed to control the level of workers' compensation premiums in Delaware. The most significant changes are (a) a 33% reduction in medical costs to the workers' compensation system, phased in over a period of three years; (b) absolute caps, expressed as a percentage of Medicare per-procedure reimbursements, on all workers' compensation medical procedures beginning on January 1, 2017; and (c) increased independence for the Ratepayer Advocate who represents ratepayers during the workers compensation rate approval process and for the committee that oversees the cost control practices of individual workers compensation insurance carriers.	7/15/2014
147	House Bill # 417 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES.	This Legislation provides a mechanism for financial institutions to freeze transactions that they suspect are financial exploitation of an elderly person. It requires the financial institution to report the suspected financial exploitation to proper agencies. If DHSS discovers financial exploitation of an elderly person, the banks have clear authority to hold transactions upon receipt of that information. It also updates the definition of exploitation and creates a definition of financial exploitation for any adult who is impaired. It amends the existing immunity provision to provide immunity for holding transactions and eliminates very open ended immunity language that could be claimed as a safe harbor by the person who engaged in any abuse because they cooperate with the investigation.	9/30/2014

## Economic Opportunity

147	Senate Bill # 6 w/SA 2 + HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE MINIMUM WAGE.	This Act would increase the minimum wage to not less than \$8.00 per hour effective July 1, 2013, and not less than \$8.75 per hour effective July 1, 2014. If the federal minimum wage becomes higher than the Delaware minimum wage, the Delaware minimum wage would increase by \$1.00 above the federal minimum wage. In addition, effective July 1, 2014, the minimum wage would increase by a percentage equal to the percentage of Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) as determined periodically under the federal Social Security Act, with the increase in the hourly rate being effective 90 days after the effective date of the corresponding increase in federal Social Security benefits.	1/30/2014
147	Senate Bill # 182	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PERSONAL INCOME TAX.	This bill creates a check box for donations to the Protecting Delaware's Children Fund on the individual income tax return. All amounts designated to this Fund would be forwarded to the Delaware Community Foundation for use in public awareness campaigns promoting the reporting of child abuse.	7/15/2014
147	Senate Bill # 191	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 22, 29, 30, AND 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS.	<p>Healthy and vibrant downtowns are critical components of Delaware's economic well-being and quality of life. The Downtown Development Districts Act is intended to leverage state resources to spur private investment in commercial business districts and surrounding neighborhoods; to improve the commercial vitality of our downtowns; and to increase the number of residents from all walks of life in downtowns and surrounding neighborhoods. This Act establishes "Downtown Development Districts," a small number of areas in our cities, towns, and unincorporated areas that will qualify for development incentives and other state benefits. Municipalities must apply for District designation. In the case of unincorporated areas, counties must apply. Applications will be evaluated by the Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues, which will make recommendations to the Governor. Following the initial round of applications, the Governor must designate at least 1 but no more than 3 Districts. Designation of the first 3 Districts must include 1 District in each county. Under the Act, no more than 15 Districts may be designated at any one time. As part of the application process, municipalities or counties must offer local incentives.</p> <p>The factors to be considered by the Committee when evaluating applications include, among others, (1) the municipality's or unincorporated area's need for District designation; (2) the quality of the District Plan; and (3) the quality of the local incentives offered. The Office of State Planning Coordination will prepare applications, establish criteria to determine what areas qualify as DDDs, and provide assistance to municipalities and counties during the application process. Under the Act, investors (both non-profit and for-profit) who make qualified real estate improvements in a District would be entitled to receive Downtown Development District (DDD) Grants of up to 20 percent of their "hard costs" such as exterior, interior, and structural improvements.</p>	6/5/2014

## Economic Opportunity

			<p>The incentive is modeled after a similar program in Virginia, which has been extremely successful in leveraging significant amounts of private capital in under-served areas. Investors would need to invest at least \$25,000 in a building or facility to qualify, and the 20 percent incentive would only qualify with respect to investments above \$25,000. For example, an investor making \$45,000 worth of qualifying investments in a District would be entitled to a DDD Grant of up to \$4,000 (i.e., 20% of \$20,000). The Act gives DSHA the authority to cap the amount of Grants and to establish further conditions and limitations. In addition, because Delaware’s Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program has proven to be a powerful tool both in preserving important historic structures and revitalizing neighborhoods, the Act also provides that 30% of the state’s yearly allocation of HPTCs will be reserved for projects in Downtown Development Districts. If by April 1 of each year any such credits are not allocated to projects in DDDs, such credits will be made available to any eligible project statewide.</p>	
147	Senate Concurrent Resolution # 60	ESTABLISHING A LOW-WAGE SERVICE WORKER TASK FORCE.		6/26/2014
148	House Bill # 60 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10 AND 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SAVINGS ACCOUNTS TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.	Savings Accounts for Individuals With Disabilities: Creates Achieving a Better Life Experience (“ABLE”) Program in DE, to enable creation of savings accounts with tax advantages similar to 529 accounts, designed to be used by persons with disabilities to save for qualifying disability & education related expenses.	6/10/2015
148	House Bill # 10	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO OFFICE OF FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT	Stand By Me: Codifies a State Office of Financial Empowerment, housed within DHSS, to ensure sustainability of the Stand By Me program and other financial empowerment programs.	7/9/2015
148	Senate Bill # 118 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 25 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD TENANT CODE.	Renter Utility Costs: Clarifies separate metering does not apply to utility service charges which are not assessed based on consumption; permits actual charge for such utility services to be passed on to tenant as part of rental agreement, subject to other protections for tenants– such as right to inspect billings– set forth in Landlord Tenant Code.	6/30/2015
148	House Bill # 177 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 25 AND 26 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND THE DELAWARE UNIFORM COMMON INTEREST OWNERSHIP ACT.	Common Interest Ownership: Requires utilities to maintain a third party notification system that allows customer to designate a third party to receive notices prior to termination of service.	9/3/2015

## Economic Opportunity

148	House Bill # 308 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION AS AN EXCLUSIVE REMEDY.	This bill is in response to the recent Delaware Superior Court decision of Simpson v. State of Delaware and Government Employees Insurance Company, 2016 WL 425010 (Del. Super. Ct. Jan. 28, 2016). In the Simpson decision, the Court noted the need for clarification, as the exclusivity provision in 19 Del. C. § 2304 could operate to unfairly deprive an employee of much-needed benefits.	9/6/2016
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## Child Welfare

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	Senate Bill # 32	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN.	Currently abandonment of a child less than 16 years of age is a misdemeanor and abandonment of a child 16 years of age and older is not a crime. This would make all cases of child abandonment a felony, with children under 14 a class E felony and those 14 or over a class F felony.	5/22/2009
145	Senate Bill # 62	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DELAWARE PERSONAL INCOME TAX CHECKOFF PROGRAMS.	Tax Check-off for Kids: Establishes a procedure to allow taxpayers to designate a contribution to a newly established Delaware Children's fund. Money deposited to the Fund will periodically be turned over to the 21st Century Fund for Delaware's Children, Inc.	7/9/2009
145	Senate Bill # 213	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT.	Child Support Enforcement: allow the Division of Child Support Enforcement to disburse support payments electronically, either by direct deposit to a bank account or to a stored value card, instead of by mailing checks. Provision is made for exceptions to this practice where disbursing payments to the child support obligee by electronic transfer is not feasible.	6/10/2010
145	Senate Bill # 113	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10, 29 AND 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EXTENDING THE JURISDICTION OF THE FAMILY COURT FOR ABUSED, DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.	This Bill creates a procedure by which youth exiting foster care in Delaware and who are provided services under the John H. Chafee Independence Act and/or the Fostering Connections and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 have a legal mechanism for Family Court to review the appropriateness of such services. The bill also specifically limits any findings on the reasonableness of the services to be offered and coordinated by the DSCYF to the youth, including financial, housing, medical, employment, training, education and other appropriate services, to the appropriations made to or by the State of Delaware for this purpose. Finally, the bill allows ongoing representation of the youth by the Office of the Child Advocate or the Court-Appointed Special Advocate program.	7/14/2010
146	House Bill # 132 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT.	This Act authorizes the Court to order a party to designate a minor child or children covered under a support order as a beneficiary on any of the parties' existing life insurance policies for the duration of a support order. The designation may be exclusive or non-exclusive, as determined by the Court. The effect of this Act is that the designated child or children will receive support by way of proceeds from the life insurance policy if a party predeceases the child or children.	7/5/2011

## Child Welfare

146	Senate Bill # 127	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE CHILD PLACEMENT REVIEW ACT.	This Bill is a result of recommendations made by the Joint Sunset Committee following its review of the Child Placement Review Board. The Bill incorporates changes in language to more accurately reflect the purpose, powers and duties, and role of the Board, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director. "Establishing an independent voluntary, citizen organization whose mission is to advocate on behalf of Delaware's children in out-of-home placements and to identify and periodically review children in the care and custody of a placement agency is in the best interests of the health and welfare of all citizens of Delaware. The purposes of this chapter are to provide a citizen-based independent monitoring of Delaware children in the care and custody of a placement agency to ensure that they receive continuing efforts to obtain permanent homes; adequate provision for their stability, health, and safety; and ongoing care addressing their physical, mental, and emotional needs; and to advocate as necessary for the paramount concerns of best interest and safety for the children."	7/8/2011
146	SS 1 for Senate Bill # 151 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LOTTERY FACILITIES AND DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORTERS.	This Act requires that operators of video lottery facilities must use data provided by the Division of Child Support Enforcement to identify large video lottery prize winners having outstanding child support debts. Once identified, such prizes would be used to pay child support debts. The Delaware Child Support System (DECSS) upon which this process would function is expected to be operational in the autumn of 2013.	5/21/2012
146	Senate Bill # 273	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT.	Child Support: broaden the definition of "income" to include lump sum payments received by support obligors and allows the Division of Child Support Enforcement to issue an income withholding order against the lump sum payment to pay arrears or retroactive support.	7/5/2012
146	HS 1 for House Bill # 371	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO INVESTIGATING THE ABUSE OF CHILDREN.	Investigation of Child Abuse & Neglect: requires the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families to track every case of child abuse and neglect reported in a case management system.	8/16/2012
147	Senate Bill # 109	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS.	Identity Theft: removes social security numbers from child support orders and would instead require Family Court to collect social security numbers of each party at time petition is filed.	7/15/2013
147	House Bill # 163	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10 AND 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.	Aging out of Foster Care: requires DSCYF to create & maintain a developmentally appropriate, comprehensive program that fully integrates independent living services from ages 14 to 21 which will assist youth with their successful transition into adulthood.	9/18/2013

## Child Welfare

147	House Bill # 125 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PARENTAL RIGHTS.	This bill allows for the reinstatement of parental rights where a child remains in the custody of the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families, despite reasonable efforts to secure a permanent plan of adoption. Where it is in the best interests of the child, this bill allows for the legal relationship between the child and his or her biological family to be reinstated.	8/6/2013
147	House Concurrent Resolution # 23	PROCLAIMING MAY 2013 AS "FOSTER CARE APPRECIATION MONTH".	This concurrent resolution proclaims May 2013 as "Foster Care Appreciation Month".	5/15/2013
147	House Concurrent Resolution # 29	ESTABLISHING THE TASK FORCE ON CHILD SUPPORT TO STUDY AND MAKE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING EFFECTIVE COLLECTION OF CHILD SUPPORT ARREARS.	This Resolution establishes the Task Force on Child Support Collection to study and make findings and recommendations regarding a statewide plan to reduce the total number of child support arrears. The Task Force shall present a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within one year of the passage of this Resolution. The Task Force is comprised of eleven (11) persons, appointed by the Speaker of the House, President pro tempore, the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services, and the Governor as specified.	6/25/2013
147	House Bill # 228 w/HA 1, HA 1 to HA 1 + SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE CHILD PLACEMENT REVIEW ACT.	The intent of this bill is to make adjustments to the existing code to be consistent with current practices, clarify ambiguities, and eliminate sections that no longer apply. The primary objective of the Child Placement Review Board is to provide a citizen-based independent monitoring of Delaware children in the care and custody of a placement agency to ensure that children achieve permanency. In meeting its objectives the Board shall conduct reviews of children in out of home placements; advocate for the timely establishment of permanency; advise the legislature; prepare an annual report concerning resources, policies, procedures and statutes which affect the goal of permanency for children.	7/1/2014
147	Senate Bill # 182	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PERSONAL INCOME TAX.	Protecting Delaware's Children Fund: creates check box for donations to Protecting Delaware's Children Fund on individual income tax return.	7/15/2014
147	House Bill # 251	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE PERTAINING TO GUARDIANSHIP OF A CHILD.	This bill re-organizes and makes changes to Chapter 23 to be more reader-friendly and to clarify certain provisions regarding guardianship and permanent guardianship. It clarifies the circumstances under which a parent may not consent to guardianship, as well as the circumstances under which a guardianship may be rescinded interpreting the Delaware Supreme Court's decision in <i>Tourison v. Pepper</i> , 51 A.3d 470 (Del. 2012). It also clarifies the standard under which the Family Court must determine competing guardianship petitions. The bill also makes changes as to who is eligible to serve as and petition for permanent guardianship of a child, and allows parents to petition for modification of permanent guardianship orders regarding contact, visitation or sharing of information. Finally, the bill makes some technical revisions to the chapter.	6/10/2014

## Child Welfare

147	House Bill # 376	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ABUSE OF CHILDREN.	This bill clarifies the duties of the Investigation Coordinator in the child protection system to have the authority to track each reported case of abuse or neglect, and to be responsible for tracking and monitoring each reported case of death, serious physical injury, and sexual abuse of a child within the Investigation Coordinator's independent tracking system. This bill also creates confidentiality and immunity clauses to protect the information and records obtained by the Investigation Coordinator.	7/21/2014
147	House Bill # 382	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FAMILY COURT PROTECTIVE ORDERS.	This bill removes the 6-month limitation on the extension of Family Court Protective Orders in circumstances where there has been additional domestic violence since the entry of the original order, a violation of the order has occurred or where the respondent consents or good cause is shown.	7/21/2014
147	Senate Bill # 99	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 AND TITLE 31 PERTAINING TO PLACEMENT OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN.	This Bill re-organizes Section 351 to be more reader friendly as to the requirements and exceptions for DSCYF to evaluate homes where children are placed with non-relatives. It also changes the current statute which required DSCYF consent before a child could be placed with a non-relative. This bill would now make the DSCYF position on the placement merely an assessment for consideration by the Family Court. Section (d) makes it clear that the Family Court has the final authority to determine whether or not the placement is appropriate. Finally, this bill modifies the definition of "dependency or dependent child" in §901(8) and §1009(3) in accordance with the proposed changes to Section 351.	4/8/2014
147	Senate Bill # 197 w/SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO TRAFFICKING OF INDIVIDUALS, FORCED LABOR AND SEXUAL SERVITUDE.	(Without Amendments) Human trafficking is a global concern that affects the United States on federal, state, and local levels, and victimizes more than 27 million people worldwide. By 2012, human trafficking had become the second fastest growing criminal activity in the United States, following drug trafficking. The Uniform Law Commission, in response to a July 2010 proposal from the American Bar Association (ABA) Center for Human Rights, began its work directed against human trafficking. The Uniform Act on Prevention of and Remedies for Human Trafficking (UAPRHT) received final approval at the ULC's Annual Meeting in July 2013 and at the ABA's House of Delegates in August 2013. This act, like the UAPRHT, presents the three-pronged approach that law enforcement and victims' advocates consider essential.	6/30/2014
147	House Joint Resolution # 5 w/HA 1	ESTABLISHING A CHILD WELFARE DATA SHARING TASK FORCE.	This Joint Resolution creates a Child Welfare Data Sharing Task Force to make recommendations for data sharing between Family Court, the Department of Education, and the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families.	2/14/2014

## Child Welfare

148	House Bill # 46	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DSCYF CUSTODY.	DSCYF Custody: Sets forth the rights of abused, neglected & dependent youth in DSCYF custody.	8/5/2015
148	Senate Bill # 85 w/SA 1 + HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 13 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT.	Interstate Family Support Act: Improves enforcement of U.S. child support orders abroad & ensures children living in U.S. receive financial support due from parents wherever those parents may reside.	6/30/2015
148	House Joint Resolution # 2	ESTABLISHING THE WILMINGTON PUBLIC SAFETY STRATEGIES COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A RAPID, INTENSIVE, AND COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION OF POLICIES TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIME IN DELAWARE'S LARGEST CITY.	Despite the good-faith efforts of city, county, state, and federal law enforcement and other officials, Wilmington's violent crime rate remains unacceptably high. This Joint Resolution establishes the Wilmington Public Safety Strategies Commission to conduct a rapid, intensive, and comprehensive examination of public safety strategies in the City of Wilmington. The 9-member Commission will be co-chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security and the New Castle County Director of Public Safety, and staff assistance will be provided by an outside consultant having significant public safety expertise. The Commission will submit a Report and Recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly as soon as possible, but in no event later than March 31, 2015.	1/29/2015

## Adult and Juvenile Justice

General Assembly	Bill Type, Number	Long Title	Synopsis	Signed/Passed
145	Senate Bill # 114	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO JURISDICTION OF THE FAMILY COURT.	This Act would authorize the Family Court to conduct national criminal background checks in civil proceedings involving minor children. This authorization would allow Family Court to clearly exercise its authority under the best interest standards of Title 13 involving sex offenders, and any other similar proceedings involving a minor child.	7/8/2009
145	House Bill # 46	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10 AND 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO RECORDS OF ARREST AND PROSECUTION.	This Bill excludes certain criminal convictions from mandatory expungement and discretionary expungement following a pardon.	7/10/2009
145	House Bill # 169	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10 AND 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO RECORDS OF ARREST AND PROSECUTION.	This Act eliminates the five-year waiting period for a person who has successfully completed the Probation Before Judgment (“PBJ”) program, and the two-year waiting period for a person who has successfully completed the First Offenders Controlled Substances Diversion Program (“CSDP”), to obtain an expungement of the arrest and conviction records relating to that offense. This Act clarifies that offenses for which records have been expunged do not have to be disclosed as arrests. This Act also corrects for what appear to be inadvertent omissions in the amendments to the expungement statutes that were passed during the prior legislative session and corrects inconsistencies between the Family Court and Superior Court expungement statutes.	7/12/2010
145	Senate Bill # 264 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN PENDING ADJUDICATION AND PAYMENT FOR CARE.	For nearly 8 years Delaware has been involved in a collaborative effort among juvenile justice agencies to, among other goals, reduce the unwarranted detention of juveniles and provide meaningful alternatives to such detention. While the Juvenile Justice Collaborative has made significant strides in that effort, experience has shown that the current provisions of 10 Del. C. §1007 do not adequately meet the circumstances faced by those courts dealing with juvenile detention decisions. Situations such as violent misdemeanors-especially against parents, guardians and non-secure facility staff; escape from non-secure detention; intimidation of witnesses; and breaches of conditional release involving additional alleged delinquent acts have proven difficult to handle where secure detention is not a possible option.	7/12/2010

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While this Bill would expand the list of possible acts for which a child could be detained in a secure facility, it provides significant safeguards against abuse of detention on these grounds. This Bill also requires that all other less restrictive options must be examined and considered before imposing secured detention, as is required by current law. The Bill further requires judges to put in writing any decision to use secure detention that overrides a presumptive analysis in a Risk Assessment Instrument calling for release or non-secure detention. Decisions by a Justice of the Peace to securely detain a juvenile are reviewed the next day Family Court is in session, an additional review must occur 14 days after detention and further review hearings must be held every 30 days thereafter. This Bill is the product of the joint effort of the agencies of the Juvenile Justice Collaborative.

146	House Bill # 177 w/HA 1, HA 3	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EXPUNGEMENT.	This bill deals with the expungement of juvenile records of arrest and adjudications of delinquency and would become effective on January 1, 2012. Section 1015 sets out the procedure for filing an expungement petition and Section 1016 defines terms used in this subpart. Section 1017 sets out situations where the Family Court must grant an expungement petition: (1) Where a juvenile was charged with a misdemeanor and the charges were dismissed or not prosecuted or the child was acquitted and the child has no prior or subsequent adjudications/convictions and no charges pending; (2) Where juvenile charged with felony offense that was resolved via dismissal, non-prosecution, or acquittal and the child has no prior or subsequent adjudications/convictions and more than one year has passed since the case was resolved; (3) Where the juvenile has one adjudication of delinquency for any offense other than a violent felony or a sex offense, and the child has no subsequent or prior adjudications/convictions, and three years have passed since the adjudication was entered. The Attorney General's office will not be notified of any petitions under this section. Section 1018 gives the court discretion to grant expungement in some cases if the Court finds that the continued existence and dissemination of information about the juvenile charges and/or adjudication would work a manifest injustice. The Attorney General's Office is notified of these petitions and made a party to the case and has the opportunity to oppose the petition and/or appeal the Family Court's decision.	8/22/2011
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## Adult and Juvenile Justice

The circumstances when a petition for discretionary expungement may be presented are as follows: (1) Child is charged with felony offense and the case is terminated in favor of the child, provided the child has no prior or subsequent adjudications/convictions and less than one year has passed since the case was resolved; (2) Child has a single adjudication of delinquency for a misdemeanor sex offense, no prior or subsequent adjudications/convictions, and at least three years have passed since the adjudication of delinquency was entered; (3) Child has 2 adjudications of delinquency for misdemeanor offense, no prior or subsequent record and at least five years have passed since the second adjudication was entered in Family Court; (4) petitioner has one adjudication of delinquency for a violent felony or sex offense (except rape 1st or 2nd degree, robbery 1st degree or burglary 1st degree), no other record and more than five years have passed since the adjudication of delinquency was entered. Section 1019 provides that expunged records may be made available to law enforcement investigating criminal activity or where a person has applied for a job in law enforcement or to determine if a person is eligible to participate in a First Offenders, Probation Before Judgment, or other Court diversion program. It is otherwise unlawful to disclose the existence of an expunged record. Section 1020 provides for notice to the federal government of any expungement granted under the foregoing procedures.

146	House Bill # 243 w/HA 1, HA 2 & SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO REPORTING SCHOOL CRIMES.	Mandatory Reporting: simplifies requirements for schools, ensuring that the most serious offenses shall be reported to law enforcement while giving schools discretion to handle minor offenses without mandatory reporting.	8/16/2012
146	House Bill # 252	AN ACT TO AMEND VOLUME 77, CHAPTER 375, LAWS OF DELAWARE, RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN PENDING ADJUDICATION AND PAYMENT FOR CARE.	This bill serves to remove the two-year sunset provision from the amendment of Title 10, Section 1007 of the Delaware Code, signed into law on July 12, 2010. The 2010 amendment of Title 10, Section 1007 of the Delaware Code expanded the list of possible acts for which a child could be detained in a secure facility, while simultaneously providing significant safeguards against the abuse of discretion on these grounds. The ultimate goal of the amendment, which was the product of the joint effort of the agencies of the Juvenile Justice Collaborative, was to reduce the unwarranted detention of juveniles and provide meaningful alternatives to detention. Because these goals continue to be furthered by the amendment introduced in 2010, this Bill removes the sunset provision so that the amendment may remain in place.	7/18/2012

## Adult and Juvenile Justice

146	House Bill # 145 w/HA 1, HA 2 + SA 2	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO EXPUNGEMENTS.	This Bill makes the statutory scheme for expungement of adult criminal offenses more comprehensive in three areas. First, it applies the existing expungement rules to violations of county and municipal codes, ordinances, and regulations. By doing so, expungements of such violations will be simplified and require less Superior Court resources. Second, it applies the existing rules for the First Offenders Controlled Substance Diversion Program to court-supervised drug diversion programs, which is the means by which most minor drug offenders are diverted. Third, it provides for expungement of first offense elections under § 4177B of Title 21, which provides for probation before judgment for qualifying first-time DUI offenders.	6/15/2012
146	Senate Bill # 226 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 RELATING TO PRE-TRIAL RELEASE ON BAIL OR RECOGNIZANCE, CRIMINAL SENTENCING, SENTENCE CALCULATION, REHABILITATION, PROBATION SUPERVISION AND DATA COLLECTION.	This Act implements the recommendations of the Justice Reinvestment Task Force created by Executive Order No. 27. The Act promotes informed decision-making in the criminal justice system by institutionalizing the use of evidenced-based practices in decisions concerning bail, rehabilitation and probation supervision and helps ensure scarce resources are focused on higher-risk offenders...	8/8/2012
147	House Bill # 57	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN PENDING ADJUDICATION AND PAYMENT FOR CARE.	In 2010, based on recommendations made by the Juvenile Justice Collaborative, Section 1007 of Title 10 was amended to expand the list of possible acts for which a child could be detained in a secure facility and provide significant safeguards against abuse of detention on those grounds. The ultimate goal of the amendments was to reduce the unwarranted detention of juveniles and provide meaningful alternatives to detention. The 2010 bill amending Section 1007 also contained a two-year sunset provision to provide an opportunity to review the efficacy of the concepts suggested by the Juvenile Justice Collaborative to ensure they did not conflict with accepted child welfare practice. In 2012, after reviewing the efficacy of the amendments to Section 1007, a bill removing the two-year sunset provision was introduced and passed both the House and Senate. However, the bill was not signed into law until after the sunset date. As a result, Section 1007 no longer contained the 2010 amendments. This bill reinstates the 2010 amendments to Section 1007, which were critical in improving the process and conceptualization of secure juvenile detention in Delaware.	5/16/2013

## Adult and Juvenile Justice

147	House Bill # 80	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FINES, COSTS, PENALTIES AND FORFEITURES.	This bill removes the requirement that a Tier III youth offender pay for the cost of their electronic monitoring system. Currently youth adjudicated as Tier III sex offenders have the same financial obligation of \$240 per month (\$8 per day) as adult offenders. However, they rarely have opportunities for employment given their age and other obstacles related to their probation, and/or need to complete school. The Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services is spending a disproportionate amount of time and staff resources to track and attempt to recover payment from these offenders with little success. Additionally, no other juvenile probation "service" requires youth or their families to pay for their treatment and support interventions.	6/27/2013
147	House Bill # 134	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 10 AND 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE EXPUNGEMENT OF ADULT ARREST RECORDS.	This Bill makes the statutory scheme for expungement of adult criminal offenses more efficient and, by doing so, will require less Superior Court resources. By including the successful completion of "probation before judgment" within the definition of "terminated in favor of the accused" the legislation improves an inadvertent drafting oversight. Previously, all requests for expungement of probation before judgment cases had to be presented to the court via the discretionary expungement process, regardless of nature of the charge, simply because "probation before judgment" was not specifically included within the definition of "terminated in favor of the accused." Section 1 addresses cases before the Family Court and Section 2 addresses all other cases.	4/10/2014
147	House Bill # 290 w/ HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PROCEEDINGS IN THE INTEREST OF A CHILD AND ADJUDICATIONS OF DELINQUENCY.	Sentencing: gives Family Court discretion in sentencing a child for delinquency to waive or suspend fines, court costs or penalty assessments.	7/15/2014
147	House Bill # 229 w/ HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CONDITIONAL LICENSES.	Conditional Licenses: allows for conditional license to attend school or job training for those with drug offense conviction revoked license.	7/22/2014
147	House Bill # 203	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SENTENCE CALCULATION AND EARNED COMPLIANCE CREDITS.	This Bill provides technical corrections and clarifies the effective date of changes to meritorious good time credit, earned compliance credit, and conditional release made by Senate Bill 226 of the 146th General Assembly. In addition, it clarifies the method of good time calculation, ensures that the resulting release date is not prior to the completion date of the offender's approved program, and clarifies the offenses for which earned compliance credit is not available. This bill is not intended to create a private cause of action.	1/30/2014

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147	House Bill # 226 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 AND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SPECIALIZED PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICERS, ASSIGNED TO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH REHABILITATIVE SERVICES.	The role of Juvenile Probation Officers in the Serious Juvenile Offender (SJO) unit is not to act as police but rather to engage and work with youth and their families while maintaining public safety. Rather than mirroring the Council on Police Training (COPT) in all respects, the training requirement for SJOs should mirror the training required of adult probation officers. The SJO unit currently completes the training offered by DOC for its adult probation officers. This training does follow the firearms training portion of the COPT training, which is appropriate since the SJO unit is the only unit in DSCYF that is permitted to carry firearms in their duties. Other parts of the COPT training, however, are not appropriate for and should not be required for the SJO unit.	7/1/2014
147	House Bill # 264	AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 65, TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT AND PAYMENT OF PERSONNEL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION.	This Bill will enable the Department of Correction to offer casual seasonal employment for up to 6 months to ex-offenders who demonstrate exceptional job skills while enrolled in a Level 4 or Level 5 vocational program, notwithstanding any prior felony convictions. This Bill also makes certain changes to the Department's existing application and review processes to conform to existing practices. The ex-offender program contemplated in this Bill will be funded exclusively by the Delaware Correctional Industries Special Fund.	7/9/2014
147	House Bill # 290 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO PROCEEDINGS IN THE INTEREST OF A CHILD AND ADJUDICATIONS OF DELINQUENCY.	This Act gives the Family Court discretion in sentencing a child for an act of delinquency to waive or suspend any required fines, court costs or penalty assessments.	7/15/2014
147	House Bill # 308 w/HA 1, HA 2, HA 3, HA 4 + SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE COMMON INTEREST COMMUNITY OMBUDSMAN.	In Delaware, county and municipal governments have required that land developers create common interest communities to administer, maintain, or improve common elements in the community such as pools, community centers, storm water management systems, or other common space or infrastructure. These communities are created by legal documents drafted by the developer and are intended to be managed by those living in these communities. This system can create difficulties for those living in these communities, especially when disputes arise. This bill would create an Office of the Common Interest Community Ombudsman. The bill would then empower the Ombudsman to assist common interest communities to understand their rights and responsibilities and to resolve disputes without recourse to the judicial system. The bill would also create a Common Interest Community Advisory Council to advise and assist the Ombudsman and to undertake a review of the current common interest community system and make recommendations to the Ombudsman for changes to Delaware law and rules of court procedure to improve the system, with the hope these recommendations would be incorporated into legislation by the 148th General Assembly.	8/12/2014

## Adult and Juvenile Justice

147	Senate Bill # 20 w/SA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.	Section 1 of this Act appropriates 39.7 FTEs, of which up to 4.0 shall be authorized as teachers/supervisors, 31.7 authorized as teachers, 3.0 authorized as secretaries for the Department of Education and 1.0 Education Associate to operate the Prison Education Program (an additional 5.7 positions are authorized in the Department of Correction for the Prison Education Program). The qualifications for employees for the prison education program, except secretaries, shall be the same as the qualifications for employees in public high schools. Teachers/supervisors shall have teaching responsibilities as defined by job responsibilities and duties developed by the Department of Education...	6/12/2014
148	House Bill # 75 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FAMILY COURT JUVENILE EXPUNGEMENT.	The continued existence and dissemination of juvenile criminal histories hampers an individual's ability to be a successful and productive member of society. Juvenile criminal histories are a hindrance to employment, education, housing and credit. This act modifies the discretionary expungement provisions to allow more individuals the ability to petition the Court for an expungement. These changes allow the Court to consider an expungement where the individual has demonstrated rehabilitation despite multiple youthful indiscretions. These provisions will enable a greater number of deserving youth the ability to move beyond their past and recognizes that most youth mature out of offending behavior.	6/17/2015
148	Senate Bill # 47	AN ACT TO AMEND THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CRIMINAL DEFENSE FOR INDIGENT PERSONS.	Every indigent person accused of a crime has the Constitutional right to effective, conflict-free counsel funded by the state. In Delaware, the Public Defender's Office and the Office of Conflict Counsel are charged with the responsibility of providing counsel for indigent people accused of crimes. The Public Defender's Office is a publicly funded law firm representing about 83% of all indigent defendants in Delaware. The Office of Conflicts Counsel is comprised of a group of lawyers who are independent contractors. They represent clients who cannot be represented by the Public Defender's Office due to a legally recognized conflict of interest. This bill modernizes the business model of the Public Defender's Office and the Office of Conflicts Counsel by consolidating their administrative functions while not compromising the interests of any client. The non-case related functions of both the Public Defender's Office and the Office of Conflicts Counsel will be handled by a Central Administration, all beneath the umbrella of an Office of Defense Services. In particular, the changes implemented by this bill will enhance the quality of representation by the lawyers contracting with the Office of Conflicts Counsel in the areas of IT support, training, client intake, early contact with clients and bill payments. This bill will ensure that all indigent persons accused of crime will be well represented. In addition to the modernization of the business model for delivery of indigent defense services, this bill changes the term of future Chief Defenders from 6 to 8 years. This bill is the same as Senate Bill 28 with the addition of changes to the various references in the entire code required by the name changes.	5/28/2015

## Adult and Juvenile Justice

148	House Bill 405 w/HA 1	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUVENILE OFFENDER CIVIL CITATION PROGRAM.	Recognizing that a criminal charge can dramatically alter a juvenile's future chances of employment and education, this bill seeks to prevent first-time juvenile offenders charged with certain minor misdemeanors from entering into the system by providing law enforcement with a civil citation procedure as an alternative to arrest. Section 1 of this Act codifies the Juvenile Offender Civil Citation Program administered by the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services within the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families. Section 2 of this Act mandates that the Civil Citation Coordinator and the Quality Assurance Unit of the Division of Youth and Rehabilitative Services will collect and analyze program data, and make annual recommendations to the Criminal Justice Council/Juvenile Justice Advisory Group and the General Assembly. Section 3 of this Act states that it shall expire 2 years after its enactment into law unless otherwise provided by a subsequent act of the General Assembly.	9/6/2016
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