



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1264: SAFETY PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS & OTHERS AT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Prime Sponsors:

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Fiscal note status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires school districts and charter schools to adopt certain school safety and student wellness policies and share information on the Safe2Tell program, and requires that the state create a model message related to certain school safety topics.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Minimal State Workload
- School Districts

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires certain policy updates and distribution of information related to student safety, as outlined below.

- Each school district and charter school must have a policy for receiving safety reports, conducting threat assessment, referring students to behavioral health supports, coordinating with law enforcement, and developing a support and reentry plan for students with safety-related incidents. The policy must include a student wellness response pathway that identifies behavioral health, crisis response, and support for students impacted by a traumatic event.
- The Department of Public Safety (CDPS) must draft a model message related to cybersecurity, online safety, safe firearm storage, and youth access to firearms prevention, to be made available at no cost to public and private schools.
- Public schools must annually provide students, parent or guardians, and staff with information on anonymous reporting through the Safe2Tell Program.

Each school district and charter school must certify compliance with the safety plan and student wellness pathway requirements on their website, and may submit it to the state through an existing mechanism. The bill specifies that the provisions do not require new expenditures for school districts or charter schools and must be done with available resources.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload for CDPS to create a model message that includes the specified topics and make it available to schools. Colorado Department of Education will have minimal workload to coordinate with CDPS on the message. The fiscal note assumes that neither CDPS or CDE is required to collect the district certifications and that it is optional for a district or school to submit it to the state.

Additionally, current law requires that the Department of Law provide materials on Safe2Tell to school districts and schools upon request. If more materials are requested in order to meet the bill's requirement that Safe2Tell information be distributed to students and parents, the Department of Law will have additional workload. Most materials are provided digitally; however, should physical materials be requested by schools, additional resources may be requested through the annual budget process.

School District

Depending on existing school district policies, the bill may increase workload for school districts to ensure that district policies align with the bill’s requirements, share Safe2Tell information with families and staff, and certify compliance. The fiscal note assumes that most districts will modify existing school safety and student support plans to comply and are not required to create new programs.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education	Public Health and Environment
Law	Public Safety

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).