



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1397: MULTIPLE EMPLOYER HEALTH TRUST FUNDING

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Sirota; Taggart
Sen. Amabile; Bridges

Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: House Appropriations**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0921**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** April 2, 2026

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, which was recommended by the Joint Budget Committee as part of the FY 2026-27 Long Bill budget package.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill removes required appropriations for certain firefighter and peace officer benefit programs and keeps funding at FY 2025-26 levels.

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

- State Expenditures
- Local Government

Appropriations. For FY 2026-27, the bill requires and includes a reduction of \$250,000 in appropriations to the Department of Local Affairs and the Department of Public Safety.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28	Out Year FY 2028-29
State Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	-\$250,000	-\$750,000	-\$2,750,000
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0	\$2,500,000
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

**Table 1A
 State Expenditures**

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28	Out Year FY 2028-29
General Fund	-\$250,000	-\$750,000	-\$2,750,000
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	-\$250,000	-\$750,000	-\$2,750,000
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

**Table 1B
 State Transfers**

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28	Out Year FY 2028-29
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$2,500,000
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0	-\$2,500,000
Net Transfer	\$0	\$0	\$0

Summary of Legislation

Under current law,¹ the General Assembly is required to increase appropriations to the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits and the Department of Public Safety (CDPS) for cardiovascular screening for peace officers, by the amounts shown in Table 2 below. The bill removes these required increased appropriations starting in FY 2026-27 and adjusts FY 2026-27 appropriations to maintain funding at FY 2025-26 levels—\$500,000 for DOLA and \$250,000 for CDPS. Employer participation in the programs becomes optional if funding is insufficient to fully cover the costs.

The bill also eliminates a required transfer of \$2.5 million from the General Fund to the Firefighter Benefits Cash Fund that would have occurred on July 1, 2028.

¹ [House Bill 24-1219](#).

Table 2
Required Appropriations under Current Law

Department	Current Year FY 2025-26	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28	Out Year FY 2028-29
DOLA, Firefighter Heart & Circ. Benefits	\$500,000	\$650,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,500,000
CDPS, Peace Officer Cardiac Screening	\$250,000	\$350,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Total	\$750,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$3,500,000

State Transfers

The bill repeals a transfer of \$2.5 million from the General Fund to the Firefighter Benefits Cash Fund in DOLA that was scheduled to occur on July 1, 2028 (FY 2028-29).

State Expenditures

The bill reduces state expenditures by \$250,000 in FY 2026-27, \$750,000 in FY 2027-28 and \$2,750,000 in FY 2028-29. These General Fund reductions will be incurred in DOLA and the CDPS, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3
State Expenditures
All Departments

Department	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28	Out Year FY 2028-29
Department of Local Affairs	-\$150,000	-\$500,000	-\$2,000,000
Department of Public Safety	-\$100,000	-\$250,000	-\$750,000
Total Costs	-\$250,000	-\$750,000	-\$2,750,000

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature. However, Section 3 only takes effect if the Long Bill becomes law, with this section taking effect on the effective date of this bill or of the FY 2026-27 Long Bill, whichever is later.

State Appropriations

For FY 2026-27, the bill requires and includes a reduction in General Fund appropriations of \$250,000, including:

- a \$150,000 reduction to the Department of Local Affairs, and a corresponding reduction from the Firefighter Benefits Cash Fund; and
- a \$100,000 reduction to the Department of Public Safety.

In addition, the bill includes technical language making this reduction in appropriations conditional upon sufficient appropriations being available in the applicable line item in the FY 2026-27 Long Bill.

State and Local Government Contacts

Joint Budget Committee Staff

Public Safety

Local Affairs