

JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis
Senate Appropriations Committee

Concerning changes to health insurance benefits for certain low-income individuals who are not eligible for medical assistance due to their immigration status, and, in connection therewith, making and reducing an appropriation.

Prime Sponsors:

Representative Brown; Sirota
Senator Amabile; Kirkmeyer

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Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Already Added to Bill, Amendment in Packet

General Fund/TABOR Impact

Significant Appropriation Decrease in Second Year

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/09/2026.

No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

The House amended the bill on third reading (04/11/2026) to make a technical correction to the effective date. The Legislative Council Staff and Joint Budget Committee Staff agree that the third reading amendment does not change the fiscal impact of the bill.

Amendments in This Packet

L.009 Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact and appropriation

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill includes an appropriation clause that changes net funding statewide by -\$15,171,482 total funds, including -\$12,916,390 General Fund and -\$2,255,092 federal funds. This includes the following changes by department:

- Department of Health Care Policy and Financing: -\$8,992,731 total funds, including \$6,737,639 General Fund and \$2,255,092 federal funds
- Department of Corrections (for private prison per diem rates): -\$6,178,751 General Fund

Description of Amendments in This Packet

L.009

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.009** (attached) restores a \$750 annual cap on dental services that was part of the introduced bill. The cap applies to children and pregnant people covered through the programs marketed as Cover All Coloradans, who would not otherwise be eligible for public health insurance due to their immigration status.

In addition, the amendment restores the funding in the Department of Corrections for private prison per diem rates, which the House amendment had reduced.

The sponsor amendment changes net funding by department as follows:

- Department of Health Care Policy and Financing: -\$7,310,288 total funds, including -\$6,178,751 from the General Fund, -\$396,038 from the Adult Dental Fund, and -\$735,499 federal funds
- Department of Corrections (for private prison per diem rates): \$6,178,751 General Fund

A contingency clause changes the reduction from the Adult Dental Fund to a reduction from the General Fund if H.B. 26-1401 (Transfers from Unclaimed Property Trust Fund) becomes law. However, the net General Fund impact is approximately the same either way, because a reduction from the Adult Dental Fund reduces the General Fund obligation for a TABOR refund.

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) has proposed a budget package for FY 2026-27 based on the March 2026 Office of State Planning and Budgeting revenue forecast. The JBC has included as part of its FY 2026-27 budget package a reduction of \$12,916,390 General Fund appropriations to be included in this bill.

Future Fiscal Impact

In FY 2027-28, the projected fiscal impact increases to -\$31.8 million total funds, including -\$26.6 million General Fund.