

Colorado Legislative Council Staff

SB17-096

REVISED FISCAL NOTE

(replaces fiscal note dated February 15, 2017)

FISCAL IMPACT:
☐ State ☐ Local ☐ Statutory Public Entity ☐ Conditional ☐ No Fiscal Impact

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BILL TOPIC: RESERVE PEACE OFFICER ACADEMY GRANT PROGRAM

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019		
State Revenue	<u>\$7,900</u>			
Cash Funds	7,900			
General Fund	Potential increase.			
State Expenditures	up to \$820,492	<u>\$22,119</u>		
Cash Funds	up to 814,834	16,183		
Centrally Appropriated Costs	5,658	5,936		
TABOR Impact	\$7,900			
FTE Position Change	0.3 FTE	0.3 FTE		
Appropriation Required: \$814,834 Department of Public Safety (FY 2017-18).				
Future Year Impacts: None.				

Summary of Legislation

This *reengrossed bill* creates the reserve academy grant program in the Division of Homeland Security in the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The program provides a one-time grant to create a reserve peace officer training academy and to train and certify a reserve peace officer auxiliary group. Guidelines for the grant application and the awarding of grants are provided in the bill. Grant funding is from gifts, grants, and donations and appropriations from the General Assembly. A grant award is to be made on or before December 1, 2017. The grant program is repealed July 1, 2019.

Background

Peace officers are authorized to enforce all of the laws of the state and to carry firearms at all times. Currently there are five reserve academies in Colorado that are Peace Officers Standards and Training Board (POST) certified. This includes:

- the El Paso County Sheriff's Office;
- the Highlands Ranch Law Enforcement Training Academy;

- the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office:
- the La Junta Police Department; and
- the Larimer County Sheriff's Office.

Senate Bill 16-111, created the Peace Officer Authority Colorado Mounted Rangers Study Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding whether it is appropriate for the Colorado Mounted Rangers to receive POST certification. On December 19, 2016, this task force recommended to the General Assembly that the Colorado Mounted Rangers should be POST certified and that a grant program be created to fund the start-up costs for a POST reserve academy. The Colorado Mounted Rangers currently serve as an independent statewide law enforcement auxiliary.

State Revenue

This bill may increase revenue by allowing the DPS to accept gifts, grants, and donations. No source of gifts, grants, or donations has been identified. Because no cash fund is created by the bill, this analysis assumes gifts, grants, and donations will be credited to the General Fund. Revenue from gifts, grants, and donations does not count toward the TABOR revenue limit.

Any person applying to a peace officer training academy must pass a fingerprint background check. The fee for this background check is \$39.50. Assuming 200 applicants will apply to this reserve academy in FY 2017-18, this fee will generate \$7,900 in revenue credited to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Identification Unit Cash Fund in the DPS.

TABOR Impact

This bill increases state cash fund revenue from fees, which will increase the amount of money required to be refunded under TABOR for FY2018-19. TABOR refunds are paid out of the General Fund. Since the bill increases the TABOR refund obligation without a corresponding change in General Fund revenue, the amount of money available in the General Fund for the budget will decrease by an identical amount.

State Expenditures

For FY 2017-18, this bill increases costs in the DPS by up to \$820,492 and 0.3 FTE. For FY 2018-19, the DPS costs are increased by \$22,119 and 0.3 FTE. Workload is also increased in the Department of Law and the Department of Corrections. These impacts are shown in Table 1 and discussed below.

Table 1. Expenditures Under SB17-096				
Cost Components	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19		
Personal Services	\$14,834	\$16,183		
FTE	0.3 FTE	0.3 FTE		
Peace Officer Auxiliary Grant	up to 800,000	0		
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	5,658	5,936		
TOTAL	up to \$820,492	\$22,119		

^{*} Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Department of Public Safety. For FY 2017-18, this bill increases the DPS expenditures by up to \$800,000 for grant funding to be awarded to create a reserve peace officer training academy, and to train and certify a reserve peace officer auxiliary group. This cost is based on other similar reserve peace officer training programs and is estimated to cost between \$3,300 and \$4,000 per participant and assumes 200 participants. The grant funds will be awarded by December 1, 2017.

Costs are further increased in FY 2017-18 for 0.3 FTE to administer the grant program. This analysis assumes a July 1, 2017, start date and is prorated to reflect the General Fund paydate shift. New FTE will solicit gifts, grants, and donations; create grant program rules, guidelines; and the grant application and funding distribution time frames. This FTE will also solicit grant applications, review grant applications received, award the grant, and track the use of grant funds. In FY 2018-19, this FTE will continue to provide administrative oversight and technical assistance to the grant recipient and prepare reports on the use of grant funding. This position will be eliminated when the grant program repeals July 1, 2019.

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation, in the DPS performs fingerprint background checks for all applicants to a peace officer training program. A fee of \$39.50 is charged to cover the cost of this background check. This analysis assumes all 200 participants will be required to pass a background check, which increases costs by \$7,900 in FY 2017-18. These costs will be paid using existing appropriations.

Department of Law. This bill increases workload in the Department of Law to conduct a sunrise POST review and certify a reserve peace officer auxiliary group. The Department of Law may also provide legal support to the Division of Homeland Security on the promulgation of grant program rules. These workload impacts can be addressed within existing appropriations.

Other state agencies. This bill may increase workload other state agencies that have peace officers to review and update policies regarding peace officer employees that may volunteer for the peace officer auxiliary group created by this bill. This workload increase is assumed to be minimal.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are estimated in the fiscal note for informational purposes and summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Centrally Appropriated Costs Under SB17-096					
Cost Components	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19			
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$2,638	\$2,641			
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	1,329	1,450			
Indirect Costs	1,691	1,845			
TOTAL	\$5,658	\$5,936			

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State Appropriations

For FY 2017-18, this bill requires and includes an appropriation of \$814,834 and an allocation of 0.3 FTE from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund to the Department of Public Safety.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Corrections Governor Information Technology

Law Local Affairs Public Safety

Research Note Available

An LCS Research Note for SB17-096 is available online and through the iLegislate app. Research notes provide additional policy and background information about the bill and summarize action taken by the General Assembly concerning the bill.