

Summary of Legislation

The bill clarifies that a school district board of education may hold an executive session for the purpose of developing strategies related to negotiations of a collective bargaining agreement or employment contract.

Background

Colorado open meetings law. Any meeting at which a state or local governmental body discusses public business or takes formal action must be open to the public. If a governmental body is meeting to discuss issues such as personnel matters, security details, or real estate transactions, a closed meeting, known as an executive session, may be called. Governmental bodies may also go into executive session to determine positions on matters subject to negotiations, to develop negotiation strategy, and to instruct negotiators. A vote of two-thirds of the members present is required to enter executive session, and the topics to be discussed must be disclosed. Any final action on matters discussed in executive session must be taken in public.

Proposition 104. Proposition 104, a ballot measure approved by voters in 2014, requires that school boards or their representatives negotiate collective bargaining agreements in meetings that are open to the public. Proposition 104 only applies to school districts and does not impact how other public bodies negotiate collective bargaining agreements.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

This bill clarifies that school district boards of education may enter an executive session to develop negotiation strategies relating to collective bargaining agreements. Holding executive sessions or discussing negotiation strategies does not directly impact the revenue, expenditures, or workload of any school district. For this reason, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

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Effective Date

The bill takes effect September 1, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

School Districts

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: **leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes**.