



## Legislative Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

# Final Fiscal Note

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<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 21-0056	<b>Date:</b>	July 14, 2021
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Rep. Froelich Sen. Fields; Jaquez Lewis	<b>Bill Status:</b>	Signed into Law
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**Bill Topic:** EQUAL ACCESS SERVICES FOR OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS

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**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill creates new requirements for child and youth out-of-home placement providers as well as the Department of Human Services. It increases state and local expenditures on an ongoing basis.

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**Appropriation Summary:** No appropriation is required.

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**Fiscal Note Status:** This fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

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## Summary of Legislation

This bill requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) and other child and youth out-of-home placement service providers to provide equal access to all available programs, services, and benefits offered by the provider. Additionally, services provided are to be culturally sensitive to those receiving services. Providers may deny care for a child or youth if there is a clear connection between the reason documented for denial and the provider's ability to meet the needs of the child or youth. Service providers are also not required to provide services outside of their specified scope or targeted population if the specialization serves a specific treatment-related purpose. The DHS is required to determine whether or not these requirements are being followed. The bill also makes changes to training requirements for foster care parents, both prior to placement of a child and annually thereafter.

## State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2021-22, the bill increases workload in the DHS, the Department of Law, and the Office of Respondent Parent's Counsel as described below.

**Department of Human Services.** Workload will increase in the DHS to revise the state foster parent pre-service curriculum. The DHS may also be required to create additional handouts as part of pre-service and annual training. No change in appropriations is required.

**Department of Law.** Workload will increase in the Department of Law to provide ongoing legal advice to the DHS on the implementation and assessment of culturally sensitive services. No change in appropriations is required.

**Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel.** Workload may minimally increase in the Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel to provide education to contractors about this change in law. No change in appropriations is required.

## Local Government

Similar to the state, workload will increase in county departments of human or social services and local child placement agencies to update materials and training. This fiscal note has not estimated the cost of this compliance.

## Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on April 19, 2021.

## State and Local Government Contacts

Counties  
Judicial

Human Services  
Law

Information Technology