



Legislative Council Staff

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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0318
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Young; Pico

Date: February 23, 2022
Bill Status: House HHS
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Bill Topic: **SUNSET CONTINUE REGUL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Sunset bill. This bill continues the regulation of speech language pathologists in the Department of Regulatory Agencies, which is scheduled to repeal September 1, 2022. State fiscal impacts include only the continuation of the program's current revenue and expenditures. The program is continued through September 1, 2031.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 22-1213¹

		Budget Year FY 2022-23	Out Year FY 2023-24
New Impacts			
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures		-	-
Other Budget Impacts		-	-
Continuing Impacts			
Revenue	Cash Funds	-	\$87,212
Expenditures	Cash Funds	-	\$68,436
	Continuing FTE	-	0.2 FTE

¹Table 1 shows the new impacts resulting from changes to the program under the bill, and the continuing impacts from extending the program beyond its current repeal date. Because the bill continues a program without making any changes, there are no new impacts. The continuing program impacts will end if the bill is not passed and the program is allowed to repeal.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the regulation of speech language pathologists by the Director of the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) repeals September 1, 2022. This bill continues the regulation of speech language pathologists until September 1, 2033. It also gives the division director authority to extend a provisional certificate beyond 24 months and specifies that insurance fraud and abuse of health insurance are grounds for discipline.

Background

Speech language pathologists have been regulated in Colorado since 2012 and must obtain a certification from DORA in order to practice. A provisional certificate may be issued to speech language pathologists who are in the process of completing their clinical fellowships, and who practice under the supervision of a certified speech language pathologist. In FY 2020-21, there were 3,194 certified speech language pathologists. To review the 2021 sunset report, see: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Mih3VMMknBdND3qdyZu_L76PisfE4jLp/view.

Continuing Program Impacts

Based on the department's actual revenue and expenditures for FY 2020-21, DORA is expected to have revenue of \$87,212 and expenditures of \$68,436 to administer the certification of speech language pathologists. If this bill is enacted, current revenue and expenditures will continue for the program starting in FY 2023-24. This continuing revenue is subject to the state TABOR limit. If this bill is not enacted, the program will end on September 1, 2023, following a wind-down period, and state revenue and expenditures will decrease starting in FY 2023-24 by the amounts shown in Table 1, above. The changes to the program do not require additional appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial	Law
Personnel	Regulatory Agencies