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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 22-0998	Date:	April 18, 2022
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Esgar Sen. Hinrichsen	Bill Status:	House Education
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Bill Topic: SOUTHERN CO INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION TECH AT CSU-PUEBLO

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

The bill creates the Southern Colorado Institute of Transportation Technology in Colorado State University – Pueblo. The bill may increase state revenue and expenditures at Colorado State University – Pueblo on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill. The fiscal note is preliminary and will be revised if additional information becomes available.

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the Southern Colorado Institute of Transportation Technology at Colorado State University – Pueblo (CSU-Pueblo) to conduct and facilitate education, training, and research on issues related to intermodal transportation and general issues related to surface transportation problems in the state. The institute must also:

- promote surface transportation research among universities to enhance the universities' ability to attract federal and private funding for research;
- serve as a competitive funding resource for small businesses that are developing surface transportation technologies;
- fund research, education, and training through a competitive process to Colorado institutions of higher education and other research entities; and
- host an annual symposium to share research and training projects.

The bill creates a seven-member governing board to oversee the institute, advise institutions of higher education that are developing transportation technology curriculum, and consult with the an existing transportation technology center in Pueblo that is funded by the Federal Railroad Administration. The institute may accept gifts, grants, and donations, and may receive and disburse any other revenue generated by the institute, such as fees, interest, and sale and licensing of intellectual property. The

board may spend any funds received on personnel, research, training, an annual symposium, and other operating costs.

The bill establishes the duties of the institute's executive director and procedures for changing the host institution in future years, if necessary.

State Revenue

The bill may increase state revenue to CSU-Pueblo from gifts, grants, donations, fees, and licensing fees. Specific revenue sources have not been identified. This fiscal note will be updated if more information becomes available. This revenue is not subject to TABOR.

State Expenditures

All expenditures for the transportation institute are assumed to be from internal institutional resources at CSU-Pueblo including staff, governing board costs, conducting an annual symposium, and distributing technical assistance and funds for research and educational purposes. The fiscal note will be updated if more information becomes available.

Other state agencies. The bill will increase workload for the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade to have a representative to serve on the institute governing board. Other institutions of higher education may have additional workload to coordinate or collaborate with the institute.

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

Higher Education Office of Economic Development and International Trade Transportation