



Colorado
Legislative
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FINAL
FISCAL NOTE

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

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0461
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Pabon
Sen. Tate

Date: September 12, 2017
Bill Status: Signed into Law
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BILL TOPIC: BEST ACT TECHNOLOGY GRANT FUNDING

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Workload increase. See State Expenditures section.	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing workload increase.		

Summary of Legislation

The bill expands the definition of capital construction under the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program to include technology. The bill also expands reporting under the program to require that an existing annual report now include a sublist of grants awarded or denied for technology projects in the last fiscal year. Finally, the bill adds to the list of factors assessed through a statewide financial assistance priority assessment to include annualized utility costs. The bill also allows utility cost savings to be identified as a source of matching funds for BEST projects.

Background

The BEST program was established in 2008 to provide grants to rebuild, repair, or replace the worst of the state's preK-12 facilities. The assistance board annually prioritizes a list of projects recommended for funding under the program to the State Board of Education. The assistance board currently takes into consideration an ongoing financial assistance priority assessment when it prioritizes projects. The projects are prioritized based on the following criteria: (1) addresses potential safety hazards or health concerns; (2) relieves overcrowding; and (3) incorporates technology into the educational environment.

State Expenditures

The bill creates an increase in workload within the Colorado Department of Education to revise the BEST capital construction guidelines to include technology, to modify the grant application process to incorporate technology grants, to include a sublist of technology grants in the annual report, and to expand the statewide financial assistance priority assessment to include reporting on annualized utility costs. The workload increase can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 6, 2017.

State and Local Government Contacts

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