



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB17-108

FISCAL NOTE

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

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0304
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Crowder
Rep. Buckner

Date: February 6, 2017
Bill Status: Senate Health and Human Services
Fiscal Analyst: Clare Pramuk (303-866-2677)

BILL TOPIC: SUNSET SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PRACTICE ACT

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019	
This bill changes and continues a program that would otherwise end September 1, 2017, so the fiscal note shows the new and continuing fiscal impacts.	New	New	Continuation
State Revenue		\$79,000	
Cash Funds			79,000
State Expenditures		\$78,840	
Cash Funds			78,840
TABOR Impact		\$79,000	
FTE Position Change			0.3 FTE
Appropriation Required: None.			
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing revenue and expenditure increase.			

Summary of Legislation

This bill continues the regulation of speech-language pathologists by the Director the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) from September 1, 2017, when the program is currently set to expire, to September 1, 2022. As recommended by the DORA Sunset Report, the bill removes references to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Background

Speech-language pathologists work to prevent, assess, diagnose, and treat speech, language, social communication, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders in children and adults. Speech-language pathologists who practice in schools are regulated by the Department of Education and all others are certified by the Director of the Division of Professions and Occupations. As of FY 2015-16, there were 2,255 active director-certified speech-language pathologists. As of August 2016, the director had issued 164 provisional certifications to those who have not yet completed all of the certification requirements. Current fees are \$145 for an original license and \$5 for a renewal.

Fiscal Impact of Programs Set to Expire

This bill continues a program in the Division of Professions and Occupations in DORA that is set to repeal effective September 1, 2017. Under current law, state agencies may be appropriated funds to wind up the affairs of an expiring program for 12 months following the repeal date. There is no need for an appropriation of the \$78,840 base funding in FY 2017-18, since the program's authorization has not yet expired, and ongoing funding for the program is included in DORA's base budget request for FY 2017-18.

The state revenue and state expenditures impact for FY 2018-19 reflects the program's anticipated fee revenue and base budget request beginning that year. Based on DORA's budget request for FY 2017-18 for the Speech-language Pathology Practice Act, costs are expected to be \$78,840 and 0.3 FTE in FY 2018-19. The anticipated base revenue is \$79,000 for one year of base expenditures.

TABOR Impact

This bill increases state cash fund revenue from fees, which will increase the amount of money required to be refunded under TABOR in FY 2018-19. TABOR refunds are paid out of the General Fund. Since the bill increases the TABOR refund obligation without a corresponding change in General Fund revenue, the amount of money available in the General Fund for the budget will decrease by an identical amount.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 9, 2017, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 10, 2017, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Law

Regulatory Agencies