



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 18-1348

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number:	LLS 18-0959	Date:	July 10, 2018
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Singer; Landgraf Sen. Gardner; Kefalas	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION & SERVICES

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure (<i>minimal</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill allows foster parents to access certain information on foster children and requires counties to prioritize child care assistance to foster parents. The bill will increase workload for state agencies and impact local government and school district expenditures and workload on an ongoing basis.

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

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill authorizes prospective and current foster parents to receive information about a foster child that is necessary to meet the child's physical, mental, emotional, behavioral, and other identified trauma needs. This includes education records, relevant information in a family service plan, placement history, and medical records. Finally, the bill requires counties to prioritize Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) funds to foster parents, certified kinship foster parents, non-certified kinship care providers who provide care to children with an open welfare case but who are not in the custody of the county, subject to available capacity and funding.

State Expenditures

Starting in the current FY 2017-18, this bill will increase workload by a minimal amount in the Judicial Department, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. Specifically, these agencies will be required to provide the information outlined in the bill to foster parents and to redact information that is not subject to disclosure. It is assumed that the increase in workload can be accomplished by each agency within existing appropriations.

Local Government

The bill impacts counties and school districts as described below.

County departments of human or social services. The bill will increase workload for county departments of human or social services to provide requested information and to redact information not subject to disclosure. The bill may also affect how counties distribute CCCAP funds and which families receive assistance. Under the bill, foster parents, certified kinship foster parents, and non-certified kinship care providers are prioritized for child care assistance. Assuming available funding remains constant, this change could shift CCCAP funding away from other families that qualify for assistance.

School districts. School districts will have an increase in workload to provide educational records of the foster youth to foster parents. School districts will also have to develop criteria and policies to verify the identity of the foster parents.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on May 30, 2018.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Human Services

Education
Judicial

Health Care Policy And Financing
School Districts