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FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0327 Date: September 9, 2020
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Arndt; Saine Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely
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Bill Topic: STUDY EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR WATER MANAGEMENT

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure (conditional), State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill would have directed the University of Colorado to study new and emerging technologies that have the potential to improve water management, provided that it can obtain donations to do so. The bill would have conditionally increased state revenue and expenditures in FY 2020-21 only.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2020-21, the bill would have appropriated \$40,000 to the University of Colorado provided that the university met a donation threshold.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill. The bill was not signed into law; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 20-1072

Table with 3 columns: Category, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund), Transfers, and TABOR Refund.

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill directs the University of Colorado, in collaboration with the Water Institute at Colorado State University, to conduct feasibility studies and pilot deployments of new and emerging technologies that have the potential to improve water management. The technologies to be investigated may include:

- in-situ sensors to monitor water use;
- sensors to monitor water quality;
- cellular and satellite telemetry systems allowing remote access to sensor data;
- aerial observation platforms, including high-altitude balloons and unmanned vehicles;
- satellite-based remote sensing and water resource forecasting technologies; and
- blockchain-based documentation; communication, and authentication of data regarding water use, trading, and conservation.

The University of Colorado must report to the Water Resources Review Committee on the progress of the studies and provide any recommendations to promote their use by July 15, 2021, and upon the request of the committee thereafter.

The University of Colorado is authorized to accept gifts, grants, and donations to conduct the studies, and shall not conduct the studies unless it has received at least \$40,000 for this purpose. Conditional upon the university raising at least that amount in donations, an additional \$40,000 General Fund is appropriated to the university for FY 2020-21.

## **State Revenue**

For FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22, the bill may increase revenue to the University of Colorado from gifts, grants, and donations. Revenue from gifts, grants, and donations is not subject to TABOR.

## **State Expenditures**

For FY 2020-21 only, the bill increases state General Fund expenditures for the University of Colorado by \$40,000, in addition to any donations being spent, conditional upon the University raising at least \$40,000 for the purposes of the bill and triggering the General Fund appropriation. University researchers will determine the scope of study that can be accomplished based on the funding secured. Workload for CSU may increase to collaborate on any study.

## **Effective Date**

The bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee on May 27, 2020.

## **State Appropriations**

For FY 2020-21, the bill appropriates \$40,000 General Fund to the Department of Higher Education.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Higher Education

Information Technology

Natural Resources