



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 20-0781	Date:	July 29, 2020
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Buck; McLachlan Sen. Todd; Lundeen	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
		Fiscal Analyst:	Josh Abram 303-866-3561 Josh.Abram@state.co.us

Bill Topic: REPLACE HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES ASSESSMENT

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> School District

The bill eliminates the statewide social studies assessment in high school and reduces state expenditures annually.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2020-21, the bill reduces appropriations to the Colorado Department of Education by \$667,680.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 20-1135**

		FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	State Education Fund	(\$667,680)	(\$667,680)
Transfers		-	-
TABOR Refund		-	-

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) administers a statewide assessment in social studies to students once in elementary school, once in middle school, and once in high school. The department administers the test in a representative sample of public schools each year, and in each public school at least once every three years. This bill removes the requirement that a statewide social studies assessment be administered in high school.

State Expenditures

The bill reduces state expenditures from the State Education Fund by \$667,680 annually. The CDE issued a Request for Proposals in Spring 2017 for a vendor to develop the statewide social studies assessments, along with English Language Arts, math, and science assessments. The resulting vendor contract was prepared to include possible testing reductions, including estimating cost reductions should the high school social studies assessment be eliminated. Based on the final vendor contract, the expenditure reduction for the elimination of high school social studies assessments will be \$667,680 in both FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22. The vendor contract term expires December 31, 2024.

School District

This bill eliminates statewide social studies tests in high school, and therefore reduces the total number of statewide tests administered in school districts. As a result, schedule, workload and administrative costs related to statewide social studies testing are also reduced at the school and district level.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on July 13, 2020, and takes effect September 14, 2020, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2020-21, this bill reduces appropriations from the State Education Fund by \$667,680.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education