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FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-1039 Date: February 24, 2020
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Zenzinger; Rankin Bill Status: Senate Education
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Bill Topic: ASSESSMENT SCORE ON A STUDENT'S TRANSCRIPT

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, School District

The bill requires that public schools get a student's permission before including a national college readiness assessment score on a high school transcript. The bill increases school district workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, each high school student's final transcript must indicate the student's level of attainment of post secondary and workforce readiness by including the student's performance on a nationally administered college readiness assessment. This bill prohibits this assessment score from being indicated on the student's transcript unless the student chooses to include it.

Background

Colorado has given a college entrance exam each spring to all 11th graders enrolled in public schools since 2001. Colorado currently administers the PSAT, a pre-college entrance exam, to all 10th graders, and the SAT to all 11th graders. The SAT is administered by College Board, which provides reports and free test preparation services for students. The SAT may serve as an admission test, and is generally accepted as such by colleges in the United States. At the time of testing, students can send their scores to up to four colleges for free.

School District

Charter schools and school districts will have both an increased workload and information technology (IT) cost to implement the bill. Staff time is required to adjust internal policies and to collect student preferences for inclusion in software systems. For most districts, existing software

may need modifications to allow for student selection of transcript options, likely requiring purchase of additional services from vendors to make the necessary updates. The combined labor and IT cost is estimated at between \$3,000 and \$5,000 per district.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education School Districts