



**Legislative
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**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number:	LLS 20B-0053	Date:	December 16, 2020
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Fields; Crowder Rep. Duran; Landgraf	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: MONEY FOR ENERGY UTILITY BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill transfers \$5.0 million from the General Fund to the Colorado Energy Office for use by the nonprofit organization Energy Outreach Colorado to provide energy bill payment assistance to low-income households. It increases state expenditures in the current FY 2020-21 only.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required; the bill transfers money to a continuously appropriated cash fund.

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

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 20B-003**

		FY 2020-21 <i>(current year)</i>	FY 2021-22
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	Cash Funds	\$5.0 million	-
	Total	\$5.0 million	-
Transfers	General Fund	(\$5.0 million)	-
	Cash Funds	\$5.0 million	-
	Total	\$0	\$0
TABOR Refund		-	-

Summary of Legislation

The bill transfers \$5.0 million from the General Fund to the Energy Outreach Colorado Low-income Energy Assistance Fund, which is administered by the Colorado Energy Office (CEO). The transfer takes place immediately upon the bill's effective date.

The CEO must distribute the money to the nonprofit organization Energy Outreach Colorado within three days of receiving the transfer. Energy Outreach Colorado must disburse the money on behalf of energy assistance recipients by June 30, 2021, return any unused money to the General Fund by that same date, and report on the disbursements to the CEO by July 15, 2021. None of the money may be used for administrative costs.

Background

Energy Outreach Colorado is a Colorado-based nonprofit organization that provides direct energy bill payment assistance to low-income households when the Department of Human Services is not accepting applications for its low-income energy assistance program. Energy Outreach Colorado pays utilities directly.

State Transfers

The bill transfers \$5.0 million from the General Fund to the Energy Outreach Colorado Low-income Energy Assistance Fund, which is administered by the CEO. The fund is continuously appropriated to the CEO for distribution to Energy Outreach Colorado.

State Expenditures

State cash fund expenditures in the CEO will increase by up to \$5.0 million in the current FY 2020-21 in the form of a disbursement to Energy Outreach Colorado. Any unused portion of this money at the end of FY 2020-21 must be returned to the General Fund; however, the fiscal note assumes the full \$5.0 million will be spent.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on December 7, 2020.

State and Local Government Contacts

Colorado Energy Office Information Technology Personnel