



## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# Fiscal Note

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<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 21-0034	<b>Date:</b>	April 19, 2021
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Rep. Cutter; Young	<b>Bill Status:</b>	House Education
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**Bill Topic:** **BULLYING PREVENTION & EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS**

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**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 specifies updates to the Colorado Department of Education's model bullying prevention and education policy, requires school districts to incorporate the policy into their discipline code, and allows public school districts to suspend or expel students for bullying. It increases state and school district workload.

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

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

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## Summary of Legislation

The bill updates the requirements for the Colorado Department of Education's (CDE) model bullying prevention and education policy and requires school districts to incorporate this policy in their discipline code. The bill also allows public school districts to suspend or expel students for bullying.

**Model bullying prevention and education policy.** When updating its model bullying prevention and education policy, the bill requires the CDE to utilize a stakeholder process that includes parents of students who have been bullied. The updated model policy must, at a minimum, clearly differentiate between conflict and bullying and harassment and bullying, and must clarify the role of cyberbullying during online instruction.

**School district bullying policy.** Each school district board of education or institute charter school board must include in their conduct and discipline code the approaches, policies, and practices outlined in the model bullying prevention and education policy developed by CDE and must report the number of bullying violations of the conduct and discipline code.

## State Expenditures

Workload for CDE will increase to include the additional requirements of the bill within its model policy during its next update, and to collect data on bullying violations. This work can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

## School District

If school districts need to update their conduct and discipline code to reflect the model policy, expenditures will increase. In addition, workload will increase to report the number of bullying violations.

## Effective Date

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

## State and Local Government Contacts

Education  
Public Safety

Information Technology  
School Districts