

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE COLORADO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE'S DISPLACED WORKERS GRANT.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Zenzinger and Kirkmeyer
Reps. Kipp and Bird

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Phone: 303-866-4960
Date Prepared: June 3, 2021

Appropriation Items of Note

Appropriation Already Added to Bill, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/07/21.

XXX	No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	Non-Concurrence: JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
L.001/L.002	Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact <i>and</i> appropriation

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill includes an appropriation clause that appropriates \$15,000,000 General Fund to the Department of Higher Education for FY 2020-21 and specifies that any amount not expended in FY 2020-21 remains available through FY 2021-22.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

L.001 and L.002

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.001** (attached) modifies the legislative declaration in the bill to explain why using money that originates from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for a displaced worker program administered by the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship

Initiative Board is an appropriate use of money received by the State pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Bill sponsor amendment **L.002** (attached) replaces the appropriation clause currently in the bill with the following appropriations for FY 2020-21:

- \$15,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Higher Education from the Workers, Employers, and Workforce Centers Cash Fund from money the state received from the federal coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. Amounts not expended in FY 2020-21 are available for use in FY 2021-22 for the same purpose.
- \$15,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Workers, Employers, and Workforce Centers Cash Fund.

The Committee may adopt L.001 and L.002.

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) has proposed a budget package for FY 2021-22 based on the March 2021 Legislative Council Staff revenue forecast. The JBC has included as part of its FY 2021-22 budget package \$15,000,000 General Fund for implementation of this bill. Specifically, the JBC package includes a place holder of \$800.0 million General Fund for those bills that are part of the "State Stimulus Package", and this bill is part of that package.

Related Budget Information

1. The FY 2021-22 Long Bill includes a \$7,000,000 General Fund appropriation to the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative Fund (COSI Fund).
2. The appropriation clause in this bill appropriates money to the Department of Higher Education for use by the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Board (COSI Board), rather than appropriating money to the COSI Fund. The statutes that create and authorize the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative Program (Section 23-3.3-1001 through 23-3.3-1005, C.R.S.) provide authority for the COSI Board to promulgate rules related to the use of funds, including the appropriation in this bill. Some current statutory restrictions relate solely to money deposited in the COSI Fund and would not apply to this appropriation.
3. If amendments L.001 and L.002 are adopted, the appropriation in this bill for use by the COSI Board would be subject to reporting and other requirements related to the use of the federal funds that are specified in Section 24-75-226, C.R.S., created in S.B. 21-288 (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Cash Fund).