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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0187	Date:	January 30, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. McLachlan; Martinez	Bill Status:	House Education
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Bill Topic: HIGHER EDUCATION STAFF SABBATICALS

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 type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill expands who is eligible to take a sabbatical to include staff at institutions of higher education. The bill may increase expenditures and workload on an ongoing basis for institutions who choose to grant sabbaticals to newly eligible staff.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, faculty at institutions of higher education are allowed to take a sabbatical if approved by the governing board of the institution. The bill extends this privilege to staff members of the institution who serve in a management position, including a director up to a vice president.

Background

Under current law, faculty must submit a detailed sabbatical plan to the governing board, which may grant the request at their discretion. Faculty may not take a sabbatical more than once every seven years. Governing boards are required to submit records of sabbaticals for inspection by the Joint Budget Committee, House and Senate Education Committees and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education upon request.

State Expenditures

Institutions of higher education may experience additional work to modify any of their policies regarding sabbaticals and to consider requests from eligible staff. Governing boards that approve sabbatical requests may also incur costs to fulfill duties of the staff member who is on sabbatical. Each governing board has the authority to decide whether granting the sabbatical will benefit the institution. The number of staff members who will take sabbaticals at each institution will vary and the fiscal note assumes any costs to cover duties will be covered by institutional revenue. No change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education

Information Technology