



Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0546	Date:	July 5, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Velasco Sen. Will; Exum	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires the University of Colorado's Natural Hazards Center to conduct a study on the implementation of emergency alerts in minority languages. The bill increases state and local expenditures in FY 2023-24 only.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2023-24, the bill requires and includes an appropriation of \$77,009 to the Department of Higher Education.

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

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 23-1237**

		Budget Year FY 2023-24	Out Year FY 2024-25
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$77,009	-
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	General Fund Reserve	\$11,551	-

Summary of Legislation

The bill instructs the University of Colorado’s Natural Hazards Center to conduct a study to assess which counties, municipalities, sheriff’s offices, fire districts, and local 911 agencies will need to implement emergency alerts in a minority language by July 1, 2024. This includes investigating what programming and staffing needs are required to provide live translation and interpretation of 911 calls. The division must consult with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the Department of Public Safety and submit its study report by January 8, 2024.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state General Fund expenditures by \$77,009 in FY 2023-24 only in the Department of Higher Education, as discussed below. It will also increase workload for the Department of Public Safety in FY 2023-24.

Department of Higher Education—University of Colorado’s Natural Hazards Center. The University of Colorado Natural Hazards Center requires \$62,500 in FY 2023-24 to conduct the study. This amount includes \$37,500 for six months of a full-time research associate and part-time graduate research assistant; \$10,000 for software and data collection expenses; and \$15,000 to cover administrative costs and a month of summer work for a principal investigator.

- **Financial aid requirement.** State law requires that annual appropriations for student financial assistance increase by at least the same percentage as General Fund appropriations to institutions of higher education. Because of this, the bill requires \$14,509 for an aligned financial aid increase.

Department of Public Safety. Workload will increase in the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to consult with the Natural Hazards Center. Any workload increase is expected to be minimal and absorbable within existing resources.

Local Government

The bill increases workload in FY 2023-24 for any municipality, sheriff’s office, county office, fire district, or local 911 agency that collaborates with the study. This workload is expected to be minimal.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 12, 2023, and takes effect on August 7, 2023, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2023-24, the bill requires and includes a General Fund appropriation of \$77,009 to the Department of Higher Education as follows:

- \$62,500 for use by the Governing Board of the University of Colorado; and
- \$14,509 for increased financial aid.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Judicial

Information Technology
Local Affairs

Higher Education
Public Safety