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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 24-0809 Date: January 16, 2024
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Marshall; Weissman Bill Status: House Education
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Bill Topic: PURPLE STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM

Summary of Fiscal Impact:
State Revenue [ ] State Transfer [ ] Local Government [ ]
State Expenditure [x] TABOR Refund [ ] School Districts [x]

The bill creates a program in the Colorado Department of Education to designate and recognize public schools that provide special services and support to military connected students and their families. The bill increases state expenditures beginning FY 2024-25.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$33,247 to the Colorado Department of Education

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1076

Table with 4 columns: Category, Sub-category, Budget Year FY 2024-25, and Out Year FY 2025-26. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund, Centrally Appropriated, Total Expenditures, Total FTE), Transfers, and Other Budget Impacts (General Fund Reserve).

## Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the Purple Star School Program in the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The program will award the purple star designation to public schools that provide services and supports to military connected students and their families. CDE must create an application process, and an evaluative rubric to measure schools' qualification for a purple star designation.

To qualify, public schools must designate a staff member as a military liaison to identify military connected students and provide a variety of services and supports to students, among other requirements. The CDE may establish other criteria to determine public school support of military families.

Purple star schools must maintain a partnership with a local military installation that facilitates military members to volunteer in schools, publish a resolution on the school's website, and host events in November and April to celebrate and recognize military children and families. Each April, the Governor must recognize each purple star school and present it with a certificate.

## State Expenditures

Beginning FY 2024-25, the bill increases state expenditures in the CDE by about \$40,000 annually from the General Fund. New costs are displayed in Table 2 and discussed below.

The CDE requires 0.3 FTE to create an application process and timeline for designating qualifying purple star schools. New tasks include collaborating with schools and the Military Interstate Children's Compact to develop a rubric for evaluating programs, developing resources for use by schools and districts, managing the application and award process, and providing technical assistance. The CDE will also arrange annual recognition ceremonies and awards for purple star schools, in collaboration with the Governor's office.

**Table 2**  
**Expenditures Under HB 24-1076**

	<b>FY 2024-25</b>	<b>FY 2025-26</b>
<b>Department of Education</b>		
Personal Services	\$33,247	\$33,247
Centrally Appropriated Costs <sup>1</sup>	\$6,396	\$6,396
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$39,643</b>	<b>\$39,643</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.3 FTE</b>	<b>0.3 FTE</b>

<sup>1</sup> Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

**Centrally appropriated costs.** Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in Table 2.

## Other Budget Impacts

**General Fund reserve.** Under current law, an amount equal to 15 percent of General Fund appropriations must be set aside in the General Fund statutory reserve. Based on this fiscal note, the bill is expected to increase the amount of General Fund held in reserve by the amounts shown in Table 1, decrease the amount of General Fund available for other purposes.

## School District

The bill increases workload for schools that choose to pursue a purple start designation. Schools can qualify for a purple star designation by having dedicated staff acting as a liaison with military connected students and families, and by providing other supports and services including counseling and mentorship. Schools must maintain accessible information for military families on enrollment, academic planning, and transition programs for students entering and leaving the district.

## Effective Date

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

## State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$33,247 to the Colorado Department of Education, and 0.3 FTE.

## State and Local Government Contacts

Education	Governor	Law
Military Affairs		

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The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).