

  
*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*  
**STATE**  
**FISCAL IMPACT**

<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 11-0680	<b>Date:</b> February 24, 2011
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Sen. Hudak; Newell Rep. Nikkel	<b>Bill Status:</b> Senate Judiciary
	<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING A STUDY OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
General Fund	\$170,604	\$29,984
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	0.8 FTE	0.4 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2011-2012:</b> See State Appropriations section.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill creates a working group within the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCCJJ) to study and collect data concerning school discipline strategies. The school discipline study must be conducted in collaboration with specified stakeholders and gather information concerning the use of law enforcement sanctions and other disciplinary strategies for students in public schools.

The working group is encouraged to employ different types of qualitative research and conduct public hearings as necessary to receive public input. The working group must present its findings in a written report to the CCCJJ no later than November 15, 2011. Based on this report, and no later than December 15, 2011, the CCCJJ must present written findings, including recommendations for alternative strategies for school discipline and suggestions for statutory changes to the education and judiciary committees of the General Assembly. The working group is repealed, effective July 1, 2012.

**State Expenditures**

*In FY 2011-12, this bill has total costs of \$170,604 and 0.8 FTE in the Department of Public Safety. Total costs in FY 2012-13 are \$29,984 and 0.4 FTE.* New staff is needed to coordinate the work group and the study, hire temporary researchers, organize and conduct public

meetings, submit the research design for an Independent Review Board (IRB) approval, perform statistical analysis on the collected data, and assist the work group in preparing and presenting the final report. This fiscal note assumes that the bill will take 18 months to implement in order to allow sufficient time for the department to convene the work group, conduct initial research, obtain IRB approval, convene public meetings and present the findings of the study to the General Assembly.

The bill requires that the study include information gathered from local law enforcement agencies, school districts and charter schools, and from state agencies. This data must be identified and collected from each public entity separately, as no central data base exists either in the Colorado Department of Education or in law enforcement agencies that aggregate this information. It is estimated that six researchers working over a seven month period will be required to collect this district-level data. Costs for these temporary contract researchers is estimated at a rate of \$14.25 per hour, for a total cost of about \$107,000. All cost components of the bill are identified in Table 1.

<b>Table 1. Expenditures Under SB 11-133</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2011-12</b>	<b>FY 2012-13</b>
Personal Services	\$49,207	\$24,604
FTE	0.8	0.4
Operating Expenses and Capital Outlay	4,522	380
Data Collection & Research	106,875	-
Public Hearings	10,000	-
Printing & Publication	-	5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$170,604</b>	<b>\$29,984</b>

**Expenditures Not Included**

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. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are summarized in Table 2.

<b>Table 2. Expenditures Not Included Under SB 11-133*</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2011-12</b>	<b>FY 2012-13</b>
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$5,565	\$2,782
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	3,418	1,708
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,983</b>	<b>\$4,490</b>

\*More information is available at: <http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes>

**State Appropriations**

In FY 2011-12, this bill requires an appropriation of \$170,604, General Fund, and 0.8 FTE to the Department of Public Safety.

**Departments Contacted**

Education

Public Safety