


Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
FINAL
FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 09-0739	Date: May 29, 2009
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Spence Rep. Casso; Massey	Bill Status: Signed into Law
	Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

TITLE: CONCERNING CHARTER SCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTIONS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2009-2010	FY 2010-2011
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: The Governor signed the bill into law on May 14, 2009, and unless a referendum petition is filed, the bill will take effect August 5, 2009.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2009-2010: None required.		
School District Impact: See School District section.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows school districts to include charter schools in long-range planning for capital construction. The bill requires that school districts considering a bond election to finance capital construction invite district charter schools to take part in planning for the election no later than June 1 in the affected year.

School districts are required to prioritize the needs of charter school capital construction in relation to the needs of the other schools in the district using the financial assistance priority assessment for public school facilities outlined in the Building Excellent Schools Today Act (BEST), created by HB08-1335. If the assessment ranks the charter school's capital construction needs in higher priority than other district school needs, the school district must include those needs in the bond election; however, if there is mutual agreement, districts and charter schools may arrange alternative financial plans for charter school construction needs.

Charter schools may request that a school district board submit a ballot question to approve a special mill levy; however, the charter school must pay for any cost of submitting such a ballot question. If the school district submits a separate mill levy ballot question at the same time as a bond ballot question, costs for the separate question shall be borne as agreed upon between the school district and the charter school.

School District Impact

This bill requires that charter school capital construction needs be prioritized along with other district school needs for inclusion in any bond election conducted for school district capital construction. Requiring the school district to include the needs of charter schools may increase the total amount requested in a ballot question. Any change to revenue or expenditures for school district capital construction is conditioned on voter approval of the bonds. For this reason, the bill is assessed as having a conditional fiscal impact on school districts.

Departments Contacted

Education

Secretary of State

County Clerks