

**STATE and LOCAL  
FISCAL IMPACT**

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<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 14-0574	<b>Date:</b> March 6, 2014
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Rep. Pabon Sen. Aguilar	<b>Bill Status:</b> House Health, Insurance, & Environment <b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> Lauren Schreier (303-866-3523)

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**SHORT TITLE:** STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS PRIOR TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary*</b>	<b>FY 2014-2015</b>	<b>FY 2015-2016</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>		<b><u>\$16,000</u></b>
General Fund		16,000
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Appropriation Required: None.</b>		

\* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

**Summary of Legislation**

Under current law, a student is exempted from receiving required immunizations prior to attending a public school if the student or parent submits a statement of exemption based on religious or personal beliefs. The bill expands the requirements necessary to invoke the personal belief exemption by requiring the statement of exemption to include either:

- the signature of a designated official that has provided the parent, guardian, or student with a written disclosure specifying the benefits and risks of immunizations to the student and the community; or
- a certification that a student completed an online education module created by the Infant Immunization program within the Department of Public Health and Environment (DPHE) that discusses the benefits and risks of immunization to the student and the community.

The bill requires the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to develop a plan to ensure school compliance and the State Board of Health, within the DPHE, to promulgate rules regarding the requirements. Each school in the state will be responsible for making immunization exemption rates of their student population publicly available. The DPHE, the CDE, and the Department of Human Services (DHS) must establish a joint policy on immunization data collection and information sharing.

**State Expenditures**

The bill increases expenditures in the CDE by \$16,000 a year starting in FY 2015-16. Workload is also increased in the CDE, DHS, and the DPHE. These impacts of the bill are discussed below.

**Assumptions.** The fiscal note assumes that current law provides adequate authority for affected agencies to perform preliminary work to implement the bill in FY 2014-15, prior to the bill's effective date. New costs to affected agencies are assumed to begin in FY 2015-16, once the bill takes effect.

**Department of Education.** The Office of Student Health Services within the CDE will have costs of \$16,000 for a health consultant and related travel. The consultant will develop a comprehensive plan for standardizing immunization procedures and reporting and coordinate with Colorado's 178 school districts, and schools within the districts, about the new requirements under the bill. These costs are summarized in Table 1.

After July 1, 2015, the department will have additional workload to monitor compliance and make site visits to school districts or schools that fail to comply with the new immunization requirements. The work will also require the department to conduct immunization audits across school districts.

<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>	<b>FY 2015-16</b>
School Health Consultant		\$14,000
Travel		\$2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$16,000</b>

**Department of Public Health and Environment.** The Infant Immunization Program within the DPHE will develop the online education module for personal belief exemption students. The State Board of Health will promulgate guidelines and rules concerning the content of the disclosures, the frequency of disclosures, and exemption forms. This will increase workload in the DPHE by a minimal amount and no new appropriations are required.

**Department of Human Services.** The DHS will coordinate with the DPHE and the CDE to establish a joint policy on immunization data collection and sharing. This work can be accomplished within the normal course of business and does not require new appropriations.

### **School District Impact**

School districts in the state will be required to adopt the new immunization standards developed under the bill. School districts will be responsible for educating school health divisions about the immunization requirements and making student immunization data publicly available.

Pursuant to Section 22-32-143, C.R.S., school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) may submit estimates of fiscal impacts within seven days of a bill's introduction. As of the date of this fiscal note, no summaries of fiscal impacts were submitted by districts or BOCES for this bill. If summaries of fiscal impacts are submitted by districts or BOCES in the future, they will be noted in subsequent revisions to the fiscal note and posted at this address: <http://www.colorado.gov/lcs>.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect July 1, 2015.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Education  
Municipal League  
Human Services  
Special Districts

Counties  
Health Care Policy and Financing  
Public Health and Environment