Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

STATE and LOCAL REVISED FISCAL IMPACT

(replaces fiscal note dated March 6, 2014)

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SHORT TITLE: STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS PRIOR TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

| Fiscal Impact Summary* | FY 2014-2015 | FY 2015-2016 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| State Revenue | | |
| State Expenditures | | Minimal workload increase. |
| FTE Position Change | | |
| Appropriation Required: None. | | |

^{*} 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 *reengrossed* 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 State Board of Health, within the Department of Public Health and Environment (DPHE), will promulgate rules regarding the requirements. Each school in the state will be responsible for making immunization exemption rates of their student population publicly available upon request. The DPHE, in consultation with other state departments, must establish a joint policy on immunization data collection and information sharing. The bill requires the DPHE to assist school districts in the analysis and interpretation of the immunization data collected.

The bill does not apply to certain children who:

- attend a nonpublic, home-based educational program;
- do not participate in any activity or class at a school with other children; or
- are educated through an online school program.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload in the DPHE by a minimal amount starting in FY 2015-16. 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. The DPHE will also assist school districts with the analysis and interpretation of student immunization data as necessary. This work aligns with current departmental workload and no new appropriations are required.

School District Impact

Beginning in FY 2015-16, 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 upon request.

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 on July 1, 2015.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education Counties

Municipal League Health Care Policy and Financing Human Services Public Health and Environment Special Districts