


Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0479 **Date:** February 16, 2010
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Merrifield **Bill Status:** House Education
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)
 Sen. Spence; Steadman

TITLE: CONCERNING IMPROVED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INCREASED PARTICIPATION IN ARTS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011: None required.		
School District Impact: See School District Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires that all public schools provide classes in performing and visual arts. Schools are encouraged to use innovative ways to deliver arts education, such as technology and software, and forming partnerships with other schools, districts, or community colleges. Schools must include arts education in students' individual career and academic plans. Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, each public school must require demonstrated proficiency in arts education as a condition of graduation.

The Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement in the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) is encouraged to collaborate with both for-profit and non profit community arts organizations. The office may also assess arts education practices at high needs schools. The bill specifies that arts education qualifies as a service for which a public school may seek grant assistance under the Student Re-engagement Grant Program. The bill also clarifies that state support for programs in post secondary career and technical education may include programs in arts education.

Background

In a study conducted by the CDE and the Colorado Council on the Arts, self-reporting results from school principals indicate that 93 percent of elementary schools, 86 percent of middle schools, and 83 percent of high schools offer some form of arts education opportunities.

School District Impact

In school districts that already have an arts graduation requirement, the overall fiscal impact will be minimal. For school districts that do not have an arts graduation requirement but offer arts programs in high schools, the additional graduation requirement will increase current enrollment in art education classes. Where schools have capacity to accommodate the increase, there is no fiscal impact; however, for some schools additional FTE and art education resources will be required.

For schools and districts that do not currently offer any arts courses, there will be costs to add these educational opportunities. Since the legislation permits innovative approaches to satisfying the requirements, including partnering with community based organizations and increasing access to grant moneys, some costs may be mitigated. For other schools, such methods may not be an option and these districts will have increased need for arts educators and resources.

Departments Contacted

Education