

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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 10-0234  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Boyd  
 Rep. Kefalas

**Date:** January 13, 2010  
**Bill Status:** Senate Health and Human Services  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO USE A PORTION OF EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THE STATEWIDE STRATEGIC USE FUND.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>	See State Expenditures Section	
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor or becoming law without his signature.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

The bill, recommended by the Economic Opportunity Poverty Reduction Task Force during the 2009 interim session, allows the executive director of the Department of Human Services to use up to 2 percent of the Statewide Strategic Use Fund each year to contract for an independent evaluation of the initiatives supported by the fund. The Statewide Strategic Use Fund is part of the Colorado Works program and provides funding for statewide initiatives that serve low-income populations.

Specifically, the bill allows a qualified, independent contractor to evaluate:

- the effectiveness of the Statewide Strategic Use Fund in meeting the objectives of the Colorado Works program; and
- the effectiveness and outcomes that result from individual initiatives supported by the fund.

The bill sets forth procedures and requirements for contracting for an evaluation. Completed evaluations must be submitted to the General Assembly.

**State Expenditures**

The bill could change the allocation of funds spent from the Statewide Strategic Use Fund. Contracting for an independent evaluation is at the discretion of the executive director of the department and any costs would be paid using the existing appropriation of federal TANF funds available in the Statewide Strategic Use Fund. The FY 2009-10 appropriation of federal funds to the Statewide Strategic Use Fund is \$10 million. Therefore, based on the current funding level, up to \$200,000 per year could be used to pay for an evaluation under the bill. Funding allocated to conduct an evaluation would reduce the amount of funding available for other initiatives supported by the Statewide Strategic Use Fund.

**Departments Contacted**

Human Services