

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

Prime Sponsors: Representative Peniston
Senator Steadman

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Summary of Amendments Made to the Bill After the 01/15/10 Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note Was Prepared (Amended by the House Education Committee 01/25/10)

The House Education Committee Report made the following changes to the bill:

- Requires the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to collaborate with the Department of Human Services, the Colorado Community College System, and the Office of Information Technology when developing program rules and criteria for scholarship awards;
- Authorizes the CDE to seek, accept, and expend any federal moneys, gifts, grants, or donations related to this program without further authorization from the General Assembly;
- Increases the portion of the continuously appropriated Early Childhood Educator Development Scholarship Fund that the Department may expend for administration from one to eight percent;
- Repeals the article if in any year the Commissioner notifies the Revisor of Statutes that no moneys have been received for this program; and
- Other technical changes.

JBC staff estimates that the changes did not change the fiscal impact of the bill as delineated in the Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note dated January 15, 2010. Legislative Council staff agrees with this assessment.

JBC Staff Concurrence with Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concurs	<input type="checkbox"/> Does Not Concur	<input type="checkbox"/> Updated Analysis
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Amendments/Appropriation Status

The bill neither requires nor contains an appropriation clause.

Bill Sponsor Amendments

Staff is not aware of any sponsor amendments to be offered.

Points to Consider

1. The bill creates the new Early Childhood Educator Development Scholarship Fund, which would consist of any federal moneys, gifts, grants, and donations that are received by the Department. **Moneys in the Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department.** Is it necessary to continuously appropriate moneys from this Fund? This method of funding essentially moves related expenditures off-budget, and thus expenditures are not reported or accounted for through the budget process.
2. The bill makes discretionary whether federal moneys, gifts, grants, and donations received by the Department are transferred to the Treasury for deposit into the newly created Early Childhood Educator Development Scholarship Fund. Is it necessary to create a new cash fund if its purpose is only discretionary (printed bill, page 4, lines 19 through 23)?