



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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 11-0362

**Date:** March 16, 2011

**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. King S.

**Bill Status:** Senate Education

**Fiscal Analyst:** Jonathan Senft (303-866-3523)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS IN SCHOOLS.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2011-2012</b>	<b>FY 2012-2013</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2011-2012:</b> None.		
<b>School District Impact:</b> See School District Impact section.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill augments existing law requiring that school districts adopt a school response framework in compliance with the federal National Incident Management System (NIMS) and creates a plan for effective communications interoperability among community partners and emergency responders. The bill increases the number of local stakeholders who may participate in this framework and sets new requirements for the Fire Safety Division in the Department of Public Safety to assess the framework at each school. Finally, the bill incorporates collaboration from the School Safety Response Center within the Colorado Department of Education (CDE).

**State Expenditures**

The School Safety Response Center will provide information and resources relating to school safety, emergency response, planning, and interoperable communications to the Division of Fire Safety. In addition, the division will collaborate with the center and be responsible for assessing safety-response issues at schools within routine fire code inspections. These duties will affect the workload of both agencies, but will not require additional appropriations.

**School District Impact**

Under this bill, school districts are required to undertake a number of new initiatives to comply with the proposed framework. These initiatives include conducting safety exercises in coordination with community partners, conducting all-hazard drills, practicing preparedness with communications interoperability, conducting an annual inventory of emergency equipment, and testing communications with state and local agencies. In addition, community stakeholders, such as first responders, city governments, municipalities and local law enforcement will need to dedicate time and resources to facilitate these district initiatives. The associated costs are dependent on the existing relationship among stakeholders and the level of preparation already in place by the districts.

**Departments Contacted**

Education      Governor's Office      Public Health & Environment      Public Safety