

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

Drafting Number: LLS 12-0011
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Beezley

Date: February 6, 2012
Bill Status: House Education
Fiscal Analyst: Jonathan Senft (303-866-3523)

TITLE: CONCERNING PARENTS' AUTHORITY TO REQUEST INTERVENTIONS FOR LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
State Revenue		
State Expenditures General Fund	at least \$23,897	at least \$22,486
FTE Position Change	0.3 FTE	0.3 FTE
Effective Date: August 8, 2012, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2012, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013: See State Appropriations section.		
School District Impact: See School District Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

Current law allows a public school up to 5 years of operation under an improvement plan before the State Board of Education (SBE) is required to take corrective action; however the board may take action anytime during that period. This bill allows the parents of students in a public school that has been designated as low-performing for 2 consecutive years to petition the State Board of Education (SBE) to take corrective action.

If fifty percent of parents submit a valid petition, the SBE must consider the request at its next regular public meeting. The SBE may accept or reject the petition request, or may choose to reconsider the petition the following school year. If it accepts the request, the SBE may either:

- direct the state review panel to evaluate the school's performance and make recommendations for restructuring;
- direct the local school board to replace the management of the school;
- allow the school to be reorganized as either a charter school or an innovation school; or
- close the school.

If the school is chartered by the state Charter School Institute (CSI), the SBE directs the CSI to take the corrective action.

State Expenditures

For FY 2012-13, this bill has costs of at least \$23,897 and 0.3 FTE to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). For FY2013-14, this bill has costs of at least \$22,486 and 0.3 FTE. The department allocates staff and resources on the assumption that school improvement planning is a five-year process. This bill accelerates the process, adding to the current estimated workload of staff who oversee these programs.

The SBE bill requires a consultant to advise on policies and rules implementing the bill. This additional staff must conduct site visits to evaluate actions for each school, manage activities of the state review panel as requested, and present recommendations to the SBE. There are currently 105 schools on two consecutive years of a Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan. This fiscal note assumes that 10 of the currently eligible schools will petition each year in the first two years of the program. If more than 10 schools petition, costs will rise accordingly. For informational purposes only, Table 1, below, describes costs for 10, 30 and 50 petitioning schools.

Table 1. Potential Costs Under HB 12-1149		
Number of Petitioning Schools in FY 2012-13	Funds	FTE
10	\$23,897	0.3 FTE
30	\$71,692	0.9 FTE
50	\$112,431	1.5 FTE

State Review Panel. There are currently 54 individuals sitting on the State Review Panel. Under this bill, it is estimated that the panel's workload will increase, perhaps significantly, depending on the number of petitions filed.

Expenditures Not Included

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Expenditures Not Included Under HB 12-1149*		
Cost Components	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)(0.3 FTE)	\$2,130	\$2,130
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments (0.3 FTE)	1,005	1,184
TOTAL	\$3,135	\$3,314

*More information is available at: <http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes>.

School District Impact

For each successful petition, school districts will incur costs to restructure schools. If more schools are directed to be restructured, then districts will need to shoulder those additional costs. Since the number of successful petitions cannot be estimated, these costs cannot be not be determined at the time of this writing.

Pursuant to Section 22-32-143, C.R.S., as specified by House Bill 11-1277, 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>

State Appropriations

For FY 2012-13, the Department of Education requires an appropriation of \$23,897 General Fund and 0.3 FTE.

Departments Contacted

Education