

State Expenditures

This bill increases state expenditures by \$142,750 in FY 2014-15.

The CDE will require the following contracted services to implement the bill:

Task force coordination: \$17,750 to contract with a meeting coordinator to facilitate task force activities, staff meetings, prepare draft agendas and presentations, communicate with task force members and other stakeholders, keep meeting minutes, collect and compile data for the task force review, and help draft and edit a final report and minority report (if any).

Assessment cost and implementation study: \$75,000 to procure a study to analyze the total annual cost to the department and to school district and charter schools of preparing for and administering statewide and local (benchmarking and formative) assessments. The contractor will also analyze opportunity costs, and local capacity to implement the standards and assessments. The estimated price of the cost analysis is based on other contracted services the department has procured in the past.

Accountability feasibility data analysis: \$30,000 of contracted services for statisticians and assessment experts with the Center for Education Assessment to analyze different assessment scenarios and implications for the state public school accountability system. Changing assessments will have varying impacts on the continued use of the Colorado growth model, and the calculation of student academic growth and other accountability metrics used in the accreditation process.

Legal analysis of options: \$20,000 to purchase legal services and analysis from the Department of Law. Legal services will help the CDE to determine the legality of allowing parents to opt-out of state assessments, other options available, and the implications of local flexibility under federal requirements. The CDE will purchase about 220 hours of legal services at a blended rate of \$91.08 per hour.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 6, 2014.

State Appropriations

Consistent with this final fiscal note, for FY 2014-15, this bill includes an appropriation of \$142,750 General Fund to the Colorado Department of Education. Of this amount, the Department of Law requires \$20,000 in reappropriated funds.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Law