Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

STATE FISCAL IMPACT

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Young Bill Status: House Health, Insurance, & Environment

Sen. Aguilar; Newell Fiscal Analyst: Dave DeNovellis (303-866-3140)

SHORT TITLE: HOUSEHOLD MEDICATION TAKE-BACK PROGRAM

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
State Revenue		
Cash Funds	up to \$68,000	up to \$68,000
State Expenditures		
Cash Funds	up to \$68,000*	up to \$68,000*
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: \$68,000 - Department of Public Health and Environment (FY 2014-15)		

^{*}General Fund may be required to fully fund the program if sufficient gifts, grants, and donations are not available.

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates a household Medication Take-Back Program (program) in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The bill directs the executive director of the CDPHE to establish a program to collect and dispose of unused household medications. The program must allow individuals to dispose of unused household medications at approved collection sites, and for carriers to transport the unused medications from approved collection sites to disposal locations. The bill creates the Household Medication Take-Back Cash Fund for the implementation of the program, which will consist of any moneys appropriated or transferred from the General Assembly to the fund and any gifts, grants, and donations received by the CDPHE.

Collection sites, carriers, and disposal locations acting in good faith are not subject to liability for incidents arising from the collection, transport, or disposal of household medications. The Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission in the CDPHE may adopt rules for the implementation of the program. Nothing in the bill prohibits the operation of existing medication take-back and disposal programs regulated by the department.

Background

The Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability within the CDPHE currently administers the Colorado Medication Take-Back Pilot Project. The project, funded by gifts, grants and donations, provides a network of 11 drop boxes, located in pharmacies and local health agency offices, for citizens to drop-off their unused over-the-counter and prescription medications. Nine of the drop boxes are located in the Denver metro area and two in Summit County. The collection, transportation and disposal of the medications in the pilot project cost approximately \$50,000 annually. CDPHE has 0.3 FTE assigned to manage the pilot project and has received \$23,244 in funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Prevention Partnership Grant and \$27,616 in gifts, grants, and donations in FY 2013-14.

State Revenue

CDPHE has identified about \$50,000 in potential gifts, grants, and donations to fund the program. This amount includes \$12,300 in pledges in from the Summit County Water Quality District, Tri-County Health Department, Centennial Water and Sanitation District, Aurora Water and the Bear Creek Watershed Association in FY 2014-15, as well as \$37,000 that the department expects to request from the Consortium for Reducing Prescription Drug Abuse. To expand the size of the existing pilot program with additional locations outside the Denver metro area, this fiscal note assumes that \$68,000 in revenue from gifts, grants, and donations is needed each fiscal year for minimum program viability.

State Expenditures

The CDPHE requires approximately \$68,000 in FY 2014-15 to establish and administer the Household Medication Take-Back Program to pay contractors to maintain and service the collection boxes. These costs will be paid from the Household Medication Take-Back Cash Fund contingent upon receipt of sufficient gifts, grants, and donations or General Fund appropriations to the cash fund from the General Assembly.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 6, 2014, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 7, 2014, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

The bill requires an appropriation of \$68,000 to the CDPHE from the Household Medication Take-Back Cash Fund in FY 2014-15.

In addition, because the program is anticipated to receive \$49,300 in gifts, grants, and donations, an appropriation of \$18,700 in General Fund to the Household Medication Take-Back Cash Fund is required if the General Assembly chooses to fully fund the program.

State and Local Government Contacts

Personnel Public Health and Environment Treasury