



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB16-1164

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-0769	Date: February 10, 2016
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Pabon Sen. Aguilar; Martinez Humenik	Bill Status: House Health, Insurance, and Environment Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

BILL TOPIC: TRANSFER IMMUNIZATION EXEMPTION DUTIES TO CDPHE

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing minimal workload increase.		

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, all students attending school or university in Colorado must provide documentation that they have received all mandatory vaccinations, unless the student is otherwise exempt from the requirement due to a medical condition or religious or personal belief. Exemption forms currently must be submitted to the student's school.

This bill requires that the exemption documents instead be submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Under the bill, the CDPHE must develop exemption forms and track vaccination rates for schools. In addition, the bill removes the authority of the State Board of Health to provide additional exemptions through regulations. The bill also makes several conforming amendments and technical updates to state statutes governing mandatory vaccinations.

Background

Under current law, schools are responsible for verifying vaccination information when enrolling a student at the school. Schools are also required to calculate their vaccination rates after collecting vaccination and exemption documentation. The CDPHE maintains the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS), a immunization record tracking system. CIIS allows health care providers to document vaccines provided and individuals and organizations to request vaccination records. Currently, the CDPHE, outside of this bill, is adding functionality to CIIS to allow parents and guardians to submit vaccine exemption documents for inclusion in the registry. This functionality is expected to be available in July 2016.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload in the CDPHE by a minimal amount beginning in FY 2016-17. Specifically, the CDPHE will have additional work to receive vaccine exemption documentation about students, respond to questions and inquiries from the public, and to calculate vaccination rates for schools. At the same time, it is assumed that less staff time will be required to support schools in collecting vaccination exemption data and calculating vaccination rates. Given the broad scope of the CDPHE's current duties involving vaccinations and the existing functionality being developed in the CIIS vaccination registry, no additional costs are expected. Any additional workload under the bill can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

School District Impact

Overall, the bill is expected to reduce workload for schools and school districts by eliminating the requirement that schools are the recipient of vaccine exemption documentation and that they are responsible for tracking vaccination rates. This shift in responsibility notwithstanding, schools must continue to verify that vaccinations have been received prior to enrolling students. It is assumed that when a parent claims an exemption to the vaccination requirement, schools will direct them to the CDPHE and the CIIS website to submit their documentation. The school would then be able to verify that documentation was submitted using the CIIS system.

Under current law, school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) may submit a separate estimate of fiscal impacts within seven days of a bill's introduction. Estimates submitted by districts or BOCES for this bill can be found on the Legislative Council website at this address: <http://1.usa.gov/23AxLIT>.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education	Information Technology
Public Health and Environment	School Districts