



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**HB16-1279**

**FISCAL NOTE**

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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 16-0506  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Rosenthal

**Date:** February 29, 2016  
**Bill Status:** House Business Affairs and Labor  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Anna Gerstle (303-866-4375)

**BILL TOPIC:** CREATION OF SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP PROGRAM

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Workload increase.	
<b>Appropriation Required:</b> None.		
<b>Future Year Impacts:</b> Ongoing workload increase.		

**Summary of Legislation**

The bill creates an international sister-state relationship program in the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). A sister-state relationship is a formal declaration of friendship between two regions, states, or nations and does not create any legal relationship. The bill defines a state as a province, administrative district, county, prefecture, or other political boundary that includes one or more cities or towns.

The program will foster relationships between the state of Colorado and states in other countries in order to promote mutually beneficial economic growth, trade, and investment opportunities; maximize collaboration; and create a forum for sustained goodwill and social, educational, and cultural exchange and cooperation. OEDIT will serve as the conduit between Colorado and the designated leader of each sister-state.

The bill requires OEDIT to submit a report to the General Assembly no later than June 30, 2022 and every 5 years after. The report must summarize all known activities conducted related to existing sister-state relationships.

**Background**

Colorado currently has sister-state relationships with the Yamagata Prefecture in Japan and the Kangwon Province in South Korea. The relationship with Yamagata was established in 1986 and the relationship with Kangwon was established in 1991. Several cities in Colorado also have sister-city relationships with cities and towns around the world.

**State Expenditures**

Beginning in FY 2016-17, the bill increases the workload of OEDIT to create, administer, and report on the new international sister-state relationship program. The program is expected to require approximately 4 hours per week, divided among staff in OEDIT's international division. The increased workload can be accommodated within existing appropriations.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 10, 2016, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 11, 2016, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Economic Development Office

Information Technology

Law