



**STATE  
REVISED FISCAL IMPACT**

(replaces fiscal impact dated January 6, 2006)

**Drafting Number:** LLS 06-0023  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Green  
 Sen. Windels

**Date:** March 16, 2006  
**Bill Status:** House Appropriations  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Harry Zeid (303-866-4753)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPLY ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR STUDENTS WITH PRINT DISABILITIES, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2006/2007</b>	<b>FY 2007/2008</b>
<b>State Revenues</b>		
Cash Funds Exempt - Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund		\$300,000 gifts, grants & donations
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
Cash Funds Exempt - Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund		\$300,000
Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund		300,000
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2006/2007:</b> None Required		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill, **as amended by the House Education Committee**, creates the Reading Assistance Grant Program to provide grants to organizations that provide school districts and eligible facilities with accessible educational materials for students with print disabilities. The program would be administered by the Department of Education. The department's responsibilities include the requirement to solicit and review applications for grants, and to award grants for terms of one to five years. The Department of Education is authorized to spend up to 1 percent of the moneys annually appropriated from the fund to offset its costs incurred in implementing the grant program.

The bill creates the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund, and appropriates \$300,000 to the fund in FY 2007-08 from the Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund. Moneys in the fund would be continuously appropriated to the Department of Education. The department is also authorized to solicit and receive public and private gifts, grants, and donations to fund the grant program.

Beginning October 1, 2008, organizations that receive grants shall annually submit reports to the Department of Education concerning the grants, and beginning January 1, 2009, the Department of Education shall annually submit a report on the grant program to the Governor and the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

### **State Revenues**

The bill appropriates \$300,000 to the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund in FY 2007-08 from the Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund. The bill also authorizes the Department of Education to solicit and receive public and private gifts, grants, and donations for the grant program. At this time no such moneys are identified.

### **State Expenditures**

The Department of Education will be responsible for the oversight of the grant program and will be required to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives, beginning in 2009. The bill authorizes the department to spend up to 1 percent of the moneys appropriated to the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund to offset the costs incurred in implementing the grant program. On this basis, up to \$3,000 will be made available annually to the Department of Education for this purpose and \$297,000 will be available for grants in FY 2007-08.

### **State Appropriations**

No appropriation is required for FY 2006-07. However, the bill contains an appropriation for \$300,000 CF from the Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund to the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund for **FY 2007-08**. However, it should be noted that Section 2-4-215, C.R.S., states that pursuant to the constitution of the state of Colorado, each General Assembly is a separate entity, and the acts of one General Assembly are not binding on future General Assemblies. Accordingly, no legislation passed by one General Assembly requiring an appropriation shall bind future General Assemblies.

### **Departments Contacted**

Education      State Treasury