

**STATE and LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 13-0472
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Nicholson
 Rep. McCann

Date: April 17, 2013
Bill Status: Senate Health and Human Services
Fiscal Analyst: Alex Schatz (303-866-4375)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ELIMINATING THE OVERSIGHT OF COMPLAINTS REGARDING DENTISTS FOR THE DENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SENIORS AND CREATING THE ORAL HEALTH COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	No net change. See State Expenditures section.	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: See State Appropriations section.		
Local Government Impact: See Local Government and School District Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill creates the Oral Health Community Grants Program (grant program) in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Subject to available appropriations, CDPHE will award grants for:

- school-based and school-linked programs to prevent tooth decay, targeting children who are eligible for free and reduced-price lunches or who attend school in a school district with a median household income at or below 235 percent of the federal poverty level;
- water supply systems to implement or monitor fluoridation practices; and
- other evidence-based programs that promote oral health.

The bill replaces existing statutes concerning the children's dental assistance program, nonprofit dental services for the elderly and disabled, and grants for fluoridation of community water supplies. A provision stating the intent of the General Assembly to appropriate no General Fund moneys to these current programs is repealed.

State Expenditures

The bill authorizes CDPHE to make expenditures on the Oral Health Community Grants Program when appropriations are available. There is no minimum grant, but a hypothetical grant of \$50,000 will provide:

- dental sealants for 1,700 children; or
- maintenance of fluoridation equipment for a smaller community water treatment system.

These expenditures are similar to expenditures authorized under current law for the children's dental assistance program and grants for fluoridation of community water supplies. The existing staff of CDPHE has expertise on oral health issues and water fluoridation and is capable of administering grants. Therefore, **the fiscal note assumes the bill does not result in an increase in state expenditures.**

The FY 2013-14 Long Bill (SB 13-230) includes a CDPHE line item for Oral Health Programs. This appropriation provides funding related to multiple statutory programs in CDPHE, including the dental assistance program for seniors (unrelated to this bill). The fiscal note assumes that funding for the bill is drawn from the Oral Health Programs line item, conditioned upon the availability within that line of sufficient funds not otherwise committed.

Local Government and School District Impact

Local governments operating water supplies and school district health programs are primary recipients of funding based on grant criteria identified in the bill. Depending on the level of funding provided in CDPHE appropriations, targeted school-based and school-linked grants may result in an increase in school district revenue and expenditures relative to the current children's dental assistance program. The amount of funding for local governments and school districts depends on current water treatment practices and community demographics, among other factors, and has not been estimated for this analysis.

State Appropriations

Funding for this bill is provided in the Long Bill line item for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Prevention Services Division, Chronic Disease Prevention Programs, Oral Health Programs. No additional appropriation is required; however, at the discretion of the General Assembly, additional moneys may be appropriated for this bill to increase the number or amount of grants awarded under the program.

Departments Contacted

Public Health and Environment
Health Care Policy and Financing
Regulatory Agencies

Local Affairs
Education

Human Services
Municipalities