



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB17-1210

FISCAL NOTE

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

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0741 **Date:** March 3, 2017
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Lontine; Buckner **Bill Status:** House Education
 Sen. Priola; Fields **Fiscal Analyst:** Kerry White (303-866-3469)

BILL TOPIC: SCHOOL DISCIPLINE FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH 2ND GRADE

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing minimal workload increase.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill prohibits a school district, board of cooperative services, or charter school from expelling a student in preschool, kindergarten, first grade, or second grade or imposing an out-of-school suspension, except as required by federal law, unless:

- the student commits an action on school grounds that endangers others;
- failure to remove the student from the school building would create a serious safety threat that cannot be reduced or eliminated by using reasonable modifications to manage the student's behavior; or
- the enrolling entity has exhausted the other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions.

Suspensions and expulsions. Authorized out-of-school suspensions are to be limited to three school days, or up to five school days under certain conditions. A state-funded preschool program is prohibited from expelling a preschool student who is in a classroom with students for whom the program receives funding from the Colorado Preschool Program Act or state or federal funding for children with disabilities. An enrolling entity may expel a student only in accordance with federal law.

Other requirements. Each school district and charter school must ensure that its school discipline policies comply with the requirements of House Bill 17-1210. School districts must also adopt prevention and early intervention strategies to reduce the need for early childhood and early elementary grade suspensions and expulsions, including assessment for disabilities, with parental consent. The bill expands the expelled and at-risk student services grant program to include services for young students and their families.

State Expenditures

This bill may require the Colorado Department of Education to review additional grant applications from entities serving young children. The fiscal note assumes that the overall grant distribution amount will not change, but the entities and purposes for which grants are made may fluctuate as a result of expanding the scope of the grant program. This workload impact is minimal and does not require additional appropriations.

School District Impact

School discipline policies. The bill increases workload for school districts, boards of cooperative services, charter schools and publically funded preschool programs to update and revise school discipline policies and ensure compliance with the bill's requirements.

Student support services costs. Workload will increase to adopt any new prevention and early invention strategies and to conduct assessments and provide services to newly identified students with disabilities. To the extent that these assessments lead to an increase in student support services, costs will increase. These impacts have not been estimated.

Grants. The bill may also alter the distribution of funding from the expelled and at-risk student services grant program if more awards are made for young students.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 9, 2017, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 10, 2017, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Information Technology

Education
Municipalities

Human Services
School Districts