



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB17-067

FISCAL NOTE

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

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0562
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Merrifield

Date: January 25, 2017
Bill Status: Senate Education
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

BILL TOPIC: EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS 50% STUDENT ACADEMIC GROWTH

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	<u>\$60,000</u>	
General Fund	60,000	
Appropriation Required: \$60,000 - Colorado Department of Education (FY2017-18).		
Future Year Impacts: None.		

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, every teacher and school principal must be evaluated using multiple fair, transparent, timely, rigorous, and valid methods. One of the standards for measuring educator effectiveness requires that at least 50 percent of the evaluation be determined by the academic growth of students.

This bill eliminates the requirement that school districts use the academic growth of students in the evaluation of licensed educators. If a school district chooses to use the academic growth of students in performance evaluations, it may count for no more than 20 percent of the evaluation. If a collective bargaining agreement does not exist in the district, then the school district's licensed personnel performance evaluation council is required to determine the percentage of student academic growth data used and to select assessment tools for the district to measure student academic growth for the purposes of teacher and principal evaluations.

Finally, the bill permits a school district to allow teachers and principals who currently have either an effective or highly effective rating to be exempted for up to three years from the requirement for annual performance evaluations.

Background

The CDE has created an online performance management system that many of school districts, charter schools, and BOCES use to collect data and manage the evaluation process for educators. Currently, 131 districts, 12 BOCES and 6 charter schools use the state's model educator evaluation system, and more districts are anticipated to join next year. The Colorado performance management system allows districts to implement the state's model performance evaluation for licensed educators and calculates the final evaluation ratings.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures by \$60,000 in FY 2017-18. Exempting teachers or principals that are effective or highly effective from the requirement of annual evaluation will require additional programming expenditures for the CDE. The state performance management system will need to either allow a teacher's or principal's rating to carry over from prior year(s), or allow for a new manual submission of a rating to carry over. Reprogramming the performance management system will require 400 hours at \$150 per hour, for a one-time cost of \$60,000 in FY 2017-18.

The bill will also increase workload for the CDE to update existing guidance documents and other technical support to reflect changes to the student academic growth requirement. Workload includes rewriting approximately 15 guidance documents, information graphics, and fact sheets. This workload does not require additional appropriations.

School District Impact

The bill does not significantly impact school district costs. All licensed educators will still be evaluated. School districts, charter schools, and BOCES are not required to eliminate the use of student academic growth in their local evaluation systems, and may choose not to. For school districts that change their evaluation systems, there will be a workload and expenditure savings from eliminating the need to collect, calculate, and report teacher data attributable to student academic growth for every licensed teacher and principal. Other workload reductions are anticipated by eliminating the need to evaluate effective and highly effective teachers annually.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2017-18, this bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$60,000 to the Colorado Department of Education.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education Law