A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING THE REQUIREMENT THAT A STATE AGENCY PREPARE A
LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill requires each state agency to develop and annually update a long-range financial plan that includes:

- The state agency's mission, major functions, and goals;
- Anticipated trends, conditions, or events;
- The state agency's best and worst performing programs;
- A forecast of the state agency's budget requests for the 5
state fiscal years after the current budget request; and

A description of any programs currently funded in whole or in part with federal funds or gifts, grants, or donations that the department anticipates will decrease in the future and, therefore, may require state money as a backfill.

The state agency is required to submit its long-range financial plan to the joint budget committee, along with its annual budget request, and post the plan on its official website.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly hereby finds and declares that:

(a) The state of Colorado has experienced substantial economic growth since the last recession and because of that growth the state has been able to effectively provide needed services for all Coloradans;

(b) But history has shown that an economic downturn is inevitable, and as such it is the responsibility of the general assembly to properly prepare for both good and bad economic times that lie ahead;

and

(c) A long-range financial forecast will allow each state agency to anticipate and strategically plan for future contingencies that may impact the state agency’s ability to provide needed services, and it will provide additional information to the general assembly so that it can appropriate money in light of possible future changes.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 2-3-209 as follows:

2-3-209. Long-range financial plan - definitions. (1) As used in this section, "state agency" means a state agency that submits a budget request to the joint budget committee in accordance with section 2-3-208, whether the request is submitted directly

-2-
BY THE STATE AGENCY OR BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND
BUDGETING ON BEHALF OF THE STATE AGENCY.

(2) EACH STATE AGENCY SHALL DEVELOP A LONG-RANGE
FINANCIAL PLAN ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2018, AND UPDATE THE
PLAN ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER. THE
PURPOSE OF THE LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN IS TO:

(a) REQUIRE THE STATE AGENCY TO ANTICIPATE AND
STRATEGICALLY PLAN FOR FUTURE CONTINGENCIES THAT MAY IMPACT THE
STATE AGENCY’S ABILITY TO MEET ITS PERFORMANCE GOALS;

(b) ASSIST THE STATE AGENCY AS IT PREPARES ITS ANNUAL
BUDGET REQUEST;

(c) PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY SO THAT IT CAN APPROPRIATE MONEY IN LIGHT OF POSSIBLE
FUTURE CHANGES; AND

(d) PROVIDE NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE POTENTIAL
GROWTH OR DECLINE OF STATE GOVERNMENT IN THE FUTURE.

(3) A STATE AGENCY SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
COMPONENTS IN THE LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN:

(a) A STATEMENT OF THE STATE AGENCY’S MISSION;

(b) A DESCRIPTION OF THE MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE
AGENCY;

(c) A DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE AGENCY’S PERFORMANCE GOALS;

(d) A DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE AGENCY’S BEST AND WORST
PERFORMING PROGRAMS;

(e) A DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED TRENDS, CONDITIONS, OR
EVENTS THAT COULD IMPACT THE ABILITY OF THE STATE AGENCY TO MEET
ITS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES;
(f) A forecast of the state agency’s budget requests for the five successive state fiscal years after the state fiscal year for which the state agency makes a budget request that is submitted along with the long-term financial plan;

(g) A comparison of the forecasts for the budget requests described in subsection (3)(f) of this section in the current and past long-range financial plans; and

(h) A description of any programs currently funded in whole or in part with federal funds or gifts, grants, or donations that the department anticipates will decrease in the future and, therefore, may require state money as a backfill.

(4) Each state agency shall submit a copy of its long-range financial plan to the joint budget committee along with its budget request that is submitted in accordance with section 2-3-208; except that, if the office of state planning and budgeting submits a budget request on behalf of a state agency, the office may also submit the state agency’s long-range financial plan.

(5) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136(11)(a)(I), the requirement to update and submit the long-range financial plan continues indefinitely. A long-range financial plan remains in effect until it is updated for the next state fiscal year. To the extent possible, the state agency shall utilize information that is included in the state agency’s annual performance report prepared in accordance with section 2-7-205.

(6) Each state agency shall post its long-range financial plans on its official website at the same time it is submitted to
SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.