



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

SB 18-011

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 18-0050	Date:	June 14, 2018
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Holbert; Kerr Rep. Kraft-Tharp; Lundeen	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: STUDENTS EXCUSED FROM TAKING STATE ASSESSMENTS

Summary of Fiscal Impact: **No fiscal impact.** This bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education notify local education providers when the department receives a complaint from a parent concerning negative consequences for students who have been opted out of statewide testing.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, school districts, charter schools, and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services are required to have a written policy and procedure by which a student's parent may excuse the student from participating in statewide assessments. Local education providers (LEPs) are prohibited from imposing negative consequences on a student who's parents request an opt out.

This bill clarifies that the LEP must determine if the opt out process requires a student's parent to submit a written request, and that students excused from statewide assessments may not be prohibited from participating in any activity or receiving any reward that is provided to students who do participate in the tests. If the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) receives a complaint from a parent that an LEP is not in compliance with the law, the CDE must notify the LEP of the nature of the complaint.

Assessment

Under current practice, the CDE informs schools and school districts when the department receives parent complaints. The bill codifies current practice for specific situations related to student opt out.

This fiscal note assumes that LEPs will comply with the law and that complaints of this nature will be rare. When the CDE does receive a complaint from a parent, there is no significant workload to notify the school or school district of the parent's complaint. For this reason, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and it took effect on April 12, 2018.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education School Districts