Summary of Legislation

This bill allows the Department of Human Services to transfer the Grand Junction Regional Center (GJRC) campus to a state institution of higher education or to a local government. If the department utilizes the option to transfer rather than sell the GJRC campus, the bill requires it to submit a plan regarding the transfer of the campus to the Capital Development Committee no later than December 10, 2019.

Background

Under current law, pursuant to Senate Bill 16-178, the Department of Human Services has been directed to vacate the GJRC campus and to list the property for sale. As of this writing, there are still residents at the GJRC campus. The GJRC campus is comprised of about 47 acres and 28 buildings. Mesa County has expressed interest in acquiring the GJRC campus.
State Revenue

This bill may reduce state revenue to the department if the GJRC campus is transferred rather than sold in FY 2019-20. The property has not been appraised recently, so the value is unknown; however, the property has required extensive maintenance work over the years. Furthermore, there are environmental contaminants on the campus, which may require costly mitigation and could factor into the potential sale price and the decision to transfer rather than sell the property.

State Expenditures

The bill may impact the Department of Personnel and Administration, Department of Human Services, and Institutions of Higher Education as discussed below.

Department of Personnel and Administration. This bill may increase workload for the Office of the State Architect in the Department of Personnel and Administration to assist with the transfer of the property, if necessary. Any workload increase is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Department of Human Services. This bill may increase workload for the Department of Human Services to transfer the property. Any workload increase will be accomplished within existing appropriations. If the GJRC campus is transferred, there is a potential reduction in maintenance costs for the property.

Institutions of Higher Education. To the extent that property is transferred to an institution of higher education, that institution will have a new asset and new maintenance obligations.

Local Government

To the extent that Mesa County or any other local government is involved in a transfer, it will have a new asset and new maintenance obligations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

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The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit: leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes.