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FISCAL NOTE

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Prime Sponsors: Sen. Danielson Bill Status: Senate HHS
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Bill Topic: INCREASE MEDICAL PROVIDERS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, TABOR Refund, State Expenditure, Local Government, State Transfer, Statutory Public Entity

The bill modifies the Colorado Health Service Corps program to include education loan repayment for geriatric advance practice providers. State expenditures increase from FY 2020-21 through FY 2026-27.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2020-21, this bill requires an appropriation of \$225,000 to a cash fund in the Department of Public Health and Environment. This cash fund is continuously appropriated to the department.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 20-022

Table with 3 columns: Category, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund, Centrally Appropriated, Total), Total FTE, Transfers, and TABOR Refund.

Summary of Legislation

The bill modifies the Colorado Health Service Corps program in the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to include geriatric advanced practice providers. The bill allows geriatric advanced practice providers who meet certain criteria to participate in an education loan repayment program. In order to be eligible, a geriatric advanced practice provider must agree to spend at least fifty percent of their time providing geriatric care in a health professional shortage area in Colorado and enter into a contract to provide such care for at least two years. In addition, they must have completed at least one of the following:

- a formal, postgraduate geriatrics training program;
- formal geriatrics training within an advanced practice provider training program and at least twelve months of postgraduate clinical experience, at least half of which was spent providing geriatric care;
- at least twenty-four months of postgraduate clinical experience, at least half of which was spent providing geriatric care; or
- a geriatric track clinical experience during an advanced practice provider training program, in which at least half of the clinical training time was spent providing geriatric care.

The bill also updates the definition of "state designated health professional shortage area" to include a shortage of geriatric advanced practice providers and increases the membership of the Colorado Health Service Corps Advisory Council from fifteen to sixteen with the addition of a physician who provides geriatric care or a geriatric advanced practice provider.

The bill requires appropriations to the Colorado Health Service Corps Fund for use in providing loan repayments for geriatric advanced practice providers, in the following amounts:

- \$225,000 in FY 2020-21;
- \$400,000 in FY 2021-22;
- \$575,000 in FY 2022-23;
- \$450,000 in FY 2023-24; and
- \$275,000 in FY 2024-25.

Background

The Colorado Health Service Corps program is administered by the Primary Care Office at the CDPHE, and was created in 2009. It provides educational loan repayment for medical professionals who agree to provide primary health care services in a federally designated health professional shortage area. Participating medical professionals serve in public or non-profit clinics in low-income or rural areas throughout the state. Since FY 2009-10, the program has grown from \$250,000 in annual loan repayment funding to \$10,690,569 in FY 2019-20. The program currently operates with 10.7 FTE.

Assumptions

The fiscal note assumes that operating costs associated with administering the program are paid out of the bill's appropriation. The balance of the appropriation is awarded via three-year loan repayment contracts which are paid in year one of the contract and monitored for compliance in years two and three.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures by \$261,428 and 0.8 FTE in FY 2020-21 and by \$420,243 and 0.6 FTE in FY 2021-22. State expenditures in the subsequent years will be based on the amounts appropriated in the bill, with administration costs depending on the number of contracts awarded and biennial reporting requirements. New expenditures are displayed in Table 2 and described below.

**Table 2
Expenditures Under SB 20-022**

	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Department of Public Health and Environment		
Personal Services	\$51,997	\$38,789
Operating Expenses	\$1,525	\$1,255
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,200	-
Contractor	\$31,250	-
Data Hosting	\$2,000	\$2,000
Contracts to Providers	\$132,028	\$357,956
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$36,428	\$20,243
Total Cost	\$261,428	\$420,243
Total FTE	0.8 FTE	0.6 FTE

* Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Department of Public Health and Environment. Beginning with FY 2020-21, the CDPHE will collect and analyze data from geriatric clinicians, post its geriatric shortage assessment, promote the geriatric program, evaluate applications, select contractors, execute contracts, and monitor program participants. Also in FY 2020-21, the CDPHE will develop shortage designation methodology, solicit stakeholder feedback on the methodology, and promulgate rules. In FY 2021-22 and beyond, the CDPHE will evaluate, select, and monitor new contracts.

- **Contractor and data hosting.** The CDPHE's Colorado Health Systems Directory is provided by an independent vendor. The directory will need to be updated in FY 2020-21 to track geriatric training data and maintained annually.
- **Contracts to providers.** The remaining funds appropriated by the bill will be used for the loan repayment program for qualified geriatric advanced practice providers. The program offers three-year contracts of up to \$50,000, which are paid in the first year and monitored in the subsequent two years. It is expected that \$132,028 in FY 2020-21 and \$357,956 in FY 2021-22 will be awarded to program participants.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are estimated to be \$36,428 in FY 2020-21 and \$20,243 in FY 2021-22.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2020-21, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$225,000 and 0.8 FTE to the Colorado Health Service Corps Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

State and Local Government Contacts

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