



Legislative Council Staff

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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 21-0623 **Date:** June 17, 2021
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Zenzinger; Lundeen **Bill Status:** Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: **ANNUAL FUNDING FOR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY SERVICES**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill requires that an annual appropriation be made from the Colorado Telephone Users with Disabilities Fund to the Talking Book Library in the Department of Education. The bill codifies and continues a state expenditure beginning in FY 2021-22.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2021-22, the bill includes an appropriation of \$250,000 to the Department of Education.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 21-115

		Budget Year FY 2021-22	Out Year FY 2022-23
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	Cash Funds	\$250,000	\$250,000
Transfers		-	-
TABOR Refund		-	-

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the General Assembly is authorized to annually appropriate money from the Colorado Telephone Users with Disabilities Fund to support Colorado Talking Book Library services for persons who are blind or physically disabled. The bill modifies the law to require this annual appropriation, and appropriates \$250,000 to the Colorado Talking Book Library in FY 2021-22.

Background

The Colorado Talking Book Library was established in 1932 as a free library service that loans audio, large print, and braille books to individuals who cannot read standard print or have a reading or learning disability. It is part of a national network of libraries that partner with the Library of Congress to deliver library services to the print-disabled. The library received \$250,000 in FY 2019-20 and \$200,000 in FY 2020-21 from the Colorado Telephone Users with Disabilities Fund to support 2.7 FTE of the library's staff of 12. The remainder of the library's funding comes primarily from General Fund as well as federal funds.

State Expenditures

This bill appropriates \$250,000 from the Colorado Telephone Users with Disabilities Fund to the Talking Book Library in the Department of Education for FY 2021-22. This appropriation is consistent with the program's FY 2019-20 funding level, which supports 2.0 FTE Reader Advisors, 0.5 FTE Technical Services Librarian, and 0.2 FTE Studio Director, as well as an outreach program, a book sharing contract, printing, and postage. It is assumed this appropriation level will be ongoing in future fiscal years.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 28, 2021, and takes effect on September 7, 2021, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2021-22, the bill includes an appropriation of \$250,000 from the Colorado Telephone Users with Disabilities Fund to the Department of Regulatory Agencies, which is reappropriated to the Department of Education for the Colorado Talking Book Library.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Regulatory Agencies