



Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 21-0377
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Ginal; Coram
Date: March 08, 2021
Bill Status: Senate Agriculture
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Bill Topic: **SUNSET FOREST HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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

Sunset Bill. SB 21-136 continues the Forest Health Advisory Council in the Department of Higher Education, which is scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2021. State fiscal impacts include only the continuation of the program's current expenditures. The council is continued through September 1, 2026.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 21-136¹

New Impacts	Budget Year FY 2021-22	Out Year FY 2022-23
Revenue	-	-
Expenditures	-	-
Continuing Impacts		
Revenue	-	-
Expenditures	Cash Funds \$18,640	\$22,368

¹ Table 1 shows the new impacts resulting from changes to the program under the bill, and the continuing impacts from extending the program beyond its current repeal date. Because the bill continues a program without making any changes, there are no new impacts. The continuing program impacts will end if the bill is not passed and the program is allowed to repeal.

Summary of Legislation

The Forest Health Advisory Council is scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2021. This bill continues the committee until September 1, 2026, following a sunset review.

Background

The Forest Health Advisory Council was established in 2016 to advise the State Forester. It is a 24-member committee housed in the Colorado State Forest Service within Colorado State University, and its members are appointed by the Governor and leadership of the General Assembly. In addition to advising the State Forester, the committee's work includes recommending legislation and facilitating collaboration on forestry. Costs to operate the committee include meeting facilitation, mediation, and travel expenses for Forest Service staff; members of the committee are not compensated or eligible for expense reimbursement.

Continuing Program Impacts

Based on the last two years of expenditures, the Department of Higher Education is expected to spend \$22,368 to operate the Forest Health Advisory Committee each year. Expenditures are from the Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the department. If this bill is enacted, current expenditures will continue for the program starting in FY 2021-22. If this bill is not enacted, the program will end on September 1, 2022, and state expenditures will decrease starting in FY 2021-22 by the amounts shown in Table 1, which reflect a prorated amount in the first year based on the bill's effective date.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect September 1, 2021.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education