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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0930 Date: August 30, 2022
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Hansen; Coram Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: ECONOMIC MOBILITY PROGRAM

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

The bill creates the economic mobility program within the Department of Public Health and Environment and directs the Department of Higher Education to facilitate the use of an online platform to assist students in accessing public benefits. Beginning in FY 2022-23, the bill increases state expenditures.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2022-23, the bill requires and includes an appropriation of \$1,970,570 to multiple state agencies.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 22-182

Table with 5 columns: Category, Sub-category, Budget Year FY 2022-23, Out Year FY 2023-24, Out Year FY 2024-25. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund, Cash Fund, Centrally Appropriated, Total Expenditures, Total FTE), Transfers (Economic Mobility Fund, Economic Recovery & Relief CF, Net Transfer), and Other Budget Impacts.

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the economic mobility program within the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), creates the Economic Mobility Program Fund, and transfers \$4 million to the fund from the Economic Recovery and Relief Cash Fund. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Higher Education (DHE) to contract for and facilitate the use of an online platform that assists students in accessing public benefits.

Background

The economic mobility program is already operating within CDPHE and the bill codifies the program in statute. The program currently has short-term funding available that supports about four temporary and term-limited employees working on tax credit outreach for the 2022 tax year. Currently, the program works to increase enrollment in the Child Tax Credit (CTC), Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC). Additionally, the program supports financial literacy training, tax filing assistance, unified benefit enrollment, education assistance, increasing affordable housing options, raising awareness and implementation of paid family leave, and other strategies.

State Transfers

On July 1, 2022, the bill transfers \$4 million from the Economic Recovery and Relief Cash Fund to the Economic Mobility Program Fund created by this bill.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in CDPHE and DHE by \$2,115,867 in FY 2022-23, by \$2,067,308 in FY 2023-24, and by \$77,819 in FY 2024-25, paid from the General Fund and the Economic Mobility Program Cash Fund. Expenditures are shown in Table 2 and detailed below. The fiscal note assumes that the \$4.0 million transferred for the program will be spent through FY 2024-25.

**Table 2
Expenditures Under SB 22-182**

Cost Components	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25
Department of Public Health and Environment			
Personal Services	\$190,237	\$252,336	\$22,071
Operating Expenses	\$4,185	\$5,535	-
Capital Outlay Costs	\$18,600	\$6,200	-
Travel Expenses	\$498	\$498	-
VITA Site Development	\$762,500	\$762,500	-
Community Outreach	\$473,550	\$473,550	-
Communication and Evaluation	\$350,000	\$350,000	-
Centrally Appropriated Costs ¹	\$145,297	\$171,689	\$10,748
FTE – Personal Services	3.1 FTE	4.1 FTE	0.3 FTE
CDPHE Subtotal	\$1,944,867	\$2,022,308	\$32,819
Department of Higher Education			
Single Stop License	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
Support for Institutions	\$126,000	-	-
DHE Subtotal	\$171,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
Total	\$2,115,867	\$2,067,308	\$77,819
Total FTE	3.1 FTE	4.1 FTE	0.3 FTE

¹ Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Department of Public Health and Environment. CDPHE requires a total of 4.1 FTE in each year to administer the economic mobility program. In FY 2022-23, previous short-term funding will support the program's current staff through September 2022, as such this fiscal note includes resources for 3.1 FTE to fund the program's staff for the remainder of FY 2022-23. In FY 2023-24, CDPHE will require funding for the full 4.1 FTE needed to administer the program. And in FY 2024-25, 0.3 FTE are required to provide statutorily required monitoring and reporting of the program.

Staffing includes a public health and community outreach specialist, a tax credit contract administrator, a tax credit outreach and navigation specialist, a partnership and benefits coordination specialist, a marketing communications specialist, a tax credit evaluation specialist, and an auditor.

- **Economic Mobility Program expenditures.** CDPHE will spend a total of \$1.6 million in both FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 on program expenses, including Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites, community outreach and navigation, and communication materials and activities. The department will contract with VITA sites and provide funding to entities interested in becoming VITA sites in Colorado; provide grants to nonprofits, local governments, and other community-based organizations to support ongoing outreach and navigation for tax payers; engage in targeted communication and education of taxpayers that may be eligible for tax benefits; and evaluate the economic mobility program.

Department of Higher Education. Beginning in FY 2022-23, DHE will expend \$45,000 annually to obtain and maintain a statewide license from Single Stop, a platform that helps students enroll in public benefits. And in FY 2022-23 only, DHE will expend \$126,000 to assist higher education institutions in establishing their own individual licenses with Single Stop.

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 shown in Table 2.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 3, 2022.

State Appropriations

For FY 2022-23, the bill requires and includes the following appropriations:

- \$1,799,570 and 3.1 FTE to the Department of Public Health and Environment from the Economic Mobility Program Cash Fund; and
- \$171,000 to the Department of Higher Education from the General Fund.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education

Public Health and Environment

Information Technology

Treasury