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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 23-0582 Date: January 26, 2023
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Marchman Bill Status: Senate Education
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Bill Topic: ELIMINATE STATE ASSESSMENT IN SOCIAL STUDIES

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:
- State Revenue
- State Expenditure
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- School District

The bill eliminates the statewide social studies assessment in elementary and middle schools. This change will reduce state and school district expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2023-24, the bill requires a reduction in appropriations to the Colorado Department of Education of \$1,025,521.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 23-061

Table with 4 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2023-24, and Out Year FY 2024-25. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (State Education Fund), Transfers, and Other Budget Impacts.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) administers a statewide assessment in social studies to students once in elementary school and once in middle school. The department administers the test in a representative sample of public schools each year, and in each public school at least once every three years. This bill removes the requirement to administer a statewide assessment in social studies.

State Expenditures

The bill reduces expenditures in the CDE by \$1,025,521 in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25, from the State Education Fund.

Elimination of social studies standardized testing reduces the cost of the state's assessment vendor contract. This reduction is estimated based on the current vendor contract amount; however, the actual reduction may be more or less than this amount due to fluctuations in student enrollment and other factors affecting the actual expenditure from the CDE for standardized assessments. Any changes to this estimate will be addressed during the annual budget setting process.

School District

This bill eliminates statewide social studies tests, and therefore reduces the total number of statewide tests administered in school districts. As a result, schedule, workload and administrative costs related to statewide social studies testing are also reduced at the school and district level.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2023-24, this bill requires a reduction in appropriations from the State Education Fund to the Colorado Department of Education of \$1,025,521.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education