



Legislative Council Staff
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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 24-0571 Date: June 21, 2024
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Young; Bradfield Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: SUNSET PROCESS COMMN DEAF HARD OF HEARING DEAFBLIND

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

Sunset bill. This bill continues the Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind in the Department of Human Services, which is scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2024. State fiscal impacts include the continuation of the program's current revenue and expenditures. The program is continued through September 1, 2031.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1276^1

Table with 4 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2024-25, Out Year FY 2025-26, Out Year FY 2026-27. Rows include New Impacts (Revenue, Expenditures) and Continuing Impacts (Revenue, Expenditures).

1 Table 1 shows the continuing impacts from extending the program beyond its current repeal date, as well as new impact under the bill. Because the bill only continues the program, no new impacts are estimated. The continuing program impacts will end if the bill is not passed and the program is allowed to repeal. Continuing revenue is subject to TABOR.
2 On February 15, 2024, the Joint Budget Committee approved an increase in \$500,000 from the General Fund to the Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind for inclusion in the FY 2024-25 Long Bill. The fiscal note assumes that this increase in appropriations will be ongoing.

Summary of Legislation

The bill continues the Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind for seven years until September 1, 2031, and renames the “citizen council” for the commission as the “advisory council.”

Background

The Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind provides several services to the deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind community such as outreach, legal, and rural auxiliary services, and other services. The commission currently receives the majority of its funding from a surcharge charged on telephone lines. The full sunset report can be found [here](#).

Continuing Program Impacts

By extending the commission, the bill will result in continuing cash fund revenue of \$2.3 million per year beginning in FY 2025-26 and continuing expenditures of \$2.9 million. The continuing expenditures amount is based on the FY 2023-24 Long Bill appropriations for the commission and recent Joint Budget Committee actions. Specifically, expenditures will include \$2.3 million from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Cash Fund from telephone surcharges and \$103,000 General Fund, based on current year appropriations, plus an additional \$500,000 General Fund which has been approved by the JBC for inclusion in the FY 2024-25 Long Bill.

If this bill is enacted, current revenue and expenditures will continue for the program starting in FY 2025-26. This continuing revenue is subject to the state TABOR limits. If this bill is not enacted, the program will end on September 1, 2025, following a wind-down period, and state revenue and expenditures will decrease starting in FY 2025-26 by the amounts shown in Table 1. The changes to the program that drive additional revenue and costs are discussed in the State Revenue and State Expenditures sections below.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 28, 2024, and takes effect on August 7, 2024, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Human Services

Information Technology

Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).