



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0177
Prime Sponsors:

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Bill Status: Bill Request
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Bill Topic: WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

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

The bill directs the Colorado State Forest Service to convene a working group and implement an enhanced wildfire awareness month outreach campaign in 2023 and 2024. The bill increases workload and expenditures for multiple agencies beginning in FY 2022-23.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2022-23, the bill requires an appropriation of \$194,496 to the Department of Higher Education.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Wildfire Matters Review Committee.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under Bill 4

Table with 4 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2022-23, Out Year FY 2023-24, and FTE. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund, Centrally Appropriated, Total), Transfers, TABOR Refund, and Total FTE.

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires that the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) in the Department of Higher Education (DHE) convene a working group to consider how best to conduct an enhanced wildfire awareness month outreach campaign in 2023 and 2024. The campaign is intended to educate and incentivize residents living in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) to engage in wildfire risk mitigation efforts. The working group must include the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the United States Forest Service (USFS), and may include other entities engaged in wildfire risk mitigation in the WUI.

The CSFS, after considering feedback from the working group, must implement an enhanced wildfire awareness month outreach campaign in conjunction with the DFPC and the USFS in 2023 and 2024. CSFS may also implement other outreach efforts in FYs 2022-23 and 2023-24.

The CSFS may, subject to available appropriations:

- develop or contract for the development or placement of marketing and education materials;
- conduct or contract for educational events;
- retain consultants for outreach efforts;
- provide web-based educational resources and information; and
- secure staff to implement outreach efforts.

The State Forester is required to report to the Wildfire Matters Review Committee during the 2023 and 2024 legislative interims, including outreach efforts implemented, money expended on outreach efforts, and the impacts of those efforts on increasing awareness of wildfire risk mitigation in the WUI.

State Expenditures

The bill increases General Fund expenditures by \$208,624 in FY 2022-23 and \$181,097 in FY 2023-24. These costs are shown in Table 2 and described below.

Table 2
Expenditures under Bill 4

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Department of Higher Education		
Personal Services	\$56,946	\$63,986
Operating Expenses	\$1,350	\$1,350
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,200	-
Marketing Consultant	\$30,000	-
Outreach Materials	\$100,000	\$100,000
Centrally Appropriated Costs ¹	\$14,128	\$15,761
FTE – Personal Services	0.9 FTE	1.0 FTE
Total Expenditures	\$208,624	\$181,097

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

Department of Higher Education. The CSFS requires 1.0 FTE to oversee the working group and implement the outreach campaign over a two-year period in FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24. Staffing costs assume a July 1, 2022 start date and standard operating costs, and are prorated for the General Fund payday shift. In addition, the CSFS requires one-time funds of \$30,000 to hire a marketing consultant to develop a marketing plan, and \$100,000 for the development and production of marketing and education materials (e.g. video, social media, television, radio, and print). Costs of \$100,000 are assumed in the second year to continue the outreach campaign.

Department of Public Safety. Beginning in FY 2022-23, the Department of Public Safety will have increased workload for staff to participate in the working group created by the bill. In addition, depending on the outreach strategy devised by the working group and CSFS, the DFPC may be required to play a role in the implementation of the outreach campaign. In such an event, it is assumed that funding will be provided to the DFPC from any funds appropriated to the CSFS in this bill (through an intergovernmental agreement or a reappropriation of funds requested through the annual budget process) or that, if needed, additional funding will be requested by the DFPC through the annual budget process based on the outreach plan developed. The fiscal note assumes that no appropriation to the DPS is required at this time.

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 included in Table 2 above.

Local Government

In FY 2022-23, workload will increase for any local government or special district that participates in the working group. Local governments that participate in the dissemination of outreach materials may have increased workloads and costs.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2022-23, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$194,496 to the Department of Higher Education and 0.9 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education
Counties

Public Safety
Municipalities