

JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis
Senate Appropriations Committee

Concerning measures to modify the administration of education assessments.

Prime Sponsors:

Senator Kolker; Pelton B.
Representative Hamrick; Garcia Sander

Date Prepared:

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JBC Analyst:

Amanda Bickel
303-866-4960

Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Required, Amendments in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/07/26.

No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

Amendments in This Packet

J.001 Staff-prepared appropriation amendment

L.003 Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact and appropriation

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.001

Staff amendment **J.001** (attached) appropriates a total of \$75,000 General Fund to the Department of Education for FY 2026-27.

L.003

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.003** (attached) strikes the portion of the Education Committee report that specifies that a local education provider shall bear the cost of administering any portion of a state assessment that is conducted by paper and pencil. Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff concur that this eliminates the \$75,000

General Fund impact identified in the LCS Revised Fiscal Note. The cost is to re-create scan programs that make paper scanning and scoring a viable option.

The Committee may adopt J.001 or L.003 but should not adopt both.

Points to Consider

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2026-27 based on the March 2026 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSP) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$57.3 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2026 Legislation

Item	FY 2026-27
SB 26-149 (Pathways for Individuals with Mental Health Disorders)	23,222,868
Competency services	20,000,000
Potential prison capacity supplemental	5,900,000
Applied Behavioral Analysis Licensing	5,000,000
County Administration shared services	3,100,000
Medicaid Working Group	500,000
HB 26-1331 (Modify 2026 Interim Committees)	-396,469
Total - Placeholders for other legislation	\$57,326,399

General Fund Impact

If staff amendment **J.001** is adopted, this bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$75,000 for FY 2026-27, reducing the \$57.3 million set aside by the same amount.

If sponsor amendment **L.003** is adopted, this bill has no fiscal impact.