



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note Memorandum

TO: Members of the House Appropriations Committee
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Fiscal Assessment of L.003 to HB26-1143

This memorandum is an assessment of the fiscal impact of the attached proposed amendment L.003 to House Bill 26-1143. This fiscal assessment is for the impact of the bill with inclusion of this amendment only. Any other added amendment could influence the fiscal impact.

Summary of Proposed Amendment

Amendment L.003 allows an applicant to submit to a fingerprint background check in lieu of providing a social security number or a taxpayer identification number when applying for a non-employment-based educational opportunity.

Fiscal Impact of Amendment

By allowing institutions of higher education to use a fingerprint background check instead of a taxpayer identification number, the amendment removes the estimated cost of up to \$100,000 identified in the fiscal note dated February 23, 2026. With Amendment L.003, institutions are no longer required to modify existing contracts with background check vendors to accommodate the use of taxpayer identification numbers.

Bill's Revised Fiscal Impact with Amendment

As amended, the bill may minimally increase state revenue and expenditures in the Department of Public Safety (CDPS). It will also increase workload in institutions of higher education and for local law enforcement agency. No appropriation is required. These impacts are summarized in Table 1 and discussed in more detail below.



Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts with Amendment L.003

| Type of Impact | Budget Year FY 2026-27 | Out Year FY 2027-28 |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| State Revenue | \$0 | \$0 |
| State Expenditures | \$0 | \$0 |
| Transferred Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in TABOR Refunds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in State FTE | 0.0 FTE | 0.0 FTE |

State Revenue

To the extent that the bill increases the number of fingerprint background checks, revenue to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Identification Unit Cash Fund in CDPS will increase. Because the bill only applies to specific education opportunities, and fingerprint background checks are only one option, the fiscal note assumes any increases will be minimal. For informational purposes, the fee for fingerprint background checks is \$39.50. Of this fee amount, \$29.50 is subject to TABOR and the \$10 passed on to the federal government is exempt from TABOR.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload in the CDPS and institutions of higher education starting in FY 2026-27. Workload in the CDPS will increase to conduct additional background checks, which the fiscal note assumes will be minimal. Workload to institutions of higher education will increase to change any policies or procedures to allow applicants to submit a fingerprint background check in lieu of their social security number.

Local Government

The bill may minimally increase workload in certain local law enforcement offices to fingerprint applicants.