

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

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Chair of Committee

April 17, 2026  
Date

Committee on Appropriations.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB26-1078 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, strike lines 12 through 21 and substitute:

2 **"SECTION 2. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill.**

3 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, to implement this  
4 act, appropriations made in the annual general appropriation act for the  
5 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of higher education are  
6 adjusted as follows:

7 (a) The general fund appropriation for the college opportunity  
8 fund program to be used for fee-for-service contracts with state  
9 institutions pursuant to section 23-18-303.5, C.R.S., is decreased by  
10 \$80,178; and

11 (b) The reappropriated funds appropriation for the regents of the  
12 university of Colorado received from the fee-for-service contracts with  
13 state institutions pursuant to section 23-18-303.5, C.R.S., under  
14 subsection (1)(a) of this section is decreased by \$80,178.

15 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not require a reduction of  
16 an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27  
17 state fiscal year if:

18 (a) The amount of the general fund appropriation made in the  
19 annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the  
20 department of higher education for the college opportunity fund program  
21 to be used for fee-for-service contracts with state institutions pursuant to  
22 section 23-18-303.5, C.R.S., is less than the amount of the adjustment  
23 required in subsection (1)(a) of this section; or

24 (b) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state  
25 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of higher  
26 education for the college opportunity fund program to be used for  
27 fee-for-service contracts with state institutions pursuant to section

1 23-18-303.5, C.R.S.

2       **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal  
3 year, \$66,056 is appropriated to the department of education. This  
4 appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the  
5 department may use this appropriation as follows:

6           (a) \$21,685 for use by school district operations for administration  
7 related to public school finance, which amount is based on an assumption  
8 that the division will require an additional 0.2 FTE; and

9           (b) \$44,371 for use by student pathways for postsecondary  
10 workforce readiness administration, which amount is based on an  
11 assumption that the division will require an additional 0.4 FTE.

12       **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage  
13 [or July 1, 2026?]; except that section 2 of this act takes effect only if the  
14 annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes  
15 law, in which case section 2 takes effect upon the effective date of this act  
16 or of the annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27,  
17 whichever is later."

18 Page 1, line 103, strike "PROGRAMS." and substitute "PROGRAMS, AND,  
19 IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AND REDUCING AN  
20 APPROPRIATION."

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