FISCAL IMPACT: ☑ State ☐ Local ☐ Statutory Public Entity ☑ Conditional ☐ No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0202  Date: March 15, 2017
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Duran  Bill Status: Senate Education
Sen. Grantham  Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

BILL TOPIC: MODERN TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Appropriation Required: None. See State Appropriations section.

Future Year Impacts: None.

Summary of Legislation

This reengrossed bill modifies state academic standards for kindergarten through twelfth grade public education (K12). Under current law, the State Board of Education (SBE) is required to revise and re-adopt academic content standards by July 1, 2018, and every six years thereafter. This bill requires that, when revising and re-adopting the standards, the board incorporate into the standards for each subject skills relating to the use of information and communications technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information.

No later than July 1, 2018, the bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) create and maintain a resource bank of sample materials pertaining to computer science courses and programs for the optional use by school districts and charter schools. The department may seek, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from private or public sources to create the resource bank; however, the department is not required to create the resource bank unless the department receives sufficient donations.

State Revenue

The bill authorizes the CDE to seek, accept, and expend gifts, grants, and private donations. In a letter dated March 3, 2017, Colorado Succeeds has committed to securing and providing the donations necessary to implement the resource bank. Private gifts are exempt from the calculation of revenue and spending limitations in the Constitution, and do not increase the TABOR refund obligation in any year in which private funding is received.
State Expenditures

For FY 2017-18 only, this bill increases state expenditures of private donations by $11,488 for the CDE to conduct a series of meetings to engage experts in creating the resource bank of computer science education materials for access by teachers. The department will incur travel and meeting costs of $11,488. The remaining workload to create the resource bank and make it available can be accomplished with existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 9, 2017, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 10, 2017, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

The bill does not require an appropriation. State revenue received by the CDE from private donations or other grants are custodial funds, and the department has continuous spending authority over these funds.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education  Law

Research Note Available

An LCS Research Note for HB17-1184 is available online and through the iLegislate app. Research notes provide additional policy and background information about the bill and summarize action taken by the General Assembly concerning the bill.