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HB 18-1048

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 18-0438 Date: June 14, 2018
Prime Sponsors: Rep. McLachlan Bill Status: Signed into Law
Sen. Coram Fiscal Analyst: Anna Gerstle | 303-866-4375
Anna.Gerstle@state.co.us

Bill Topic: FORT LEWIS COLLEGE SPENDING HESPERUS ACCOUNT

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure (no net change), State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill modifies the requirements related to the appropriation and use of the "Hesperus account". The bill does not increase or decrease state expenditures, but it changes how funds may be spent on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the "Hesperus account" must be appropriated annually by the General Assembly to the Board of Trustees for Fort Lewis College to be used first for tuition waivers for qualified Native American pupils and then for other purposes designated by the board.

The bill specifies that the General Assembly may annually appropriate money in the Hesperus account and that the money may be used in conjunction with General Fund appropriations for tuition waivers for Native American students.

Background

The Hesperus "Fort Lewis school" property is owned and managed by the State Land Board, with the Board of Trustees for Fort Lewis College receiving revenue from the property and working with the State Land Board to manage educational and community uses of the property.

State Expenditures

The bill does not change revenue to or expenditures from the account; however, it allows the Board of Trustees for Fort Lewis College additional flexibility in how the funds are spent. Currently, absent a specific appropriation from the General Assembly, General Fund and tuition revenue will be used to address ongoing maintenance needs at the property. Under the bill, the Board of Trustees may use income from the property to address the property's infrastructure, maintenance, and restoration needs, allowing General Fund and tuition revenue to be spent elsewhere. General Fund dollars will continue to fund the full amount required for tuition waivers for Native American students, as required under Section 23-52-105, C.R.S.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 7, 2018, and takes effect on August 8, 2018, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education