



Legislative
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FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 19-0779	Date:	July 9, 2019
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Caraveo; Pelton Sen. Fields	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: COLORADO CHILD ABUSE RESPONSE AND EVALUATION NETWORK

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill creates the Colorado Child Abuse Response and Evaluation Network to develop and maintain standardized, coordinated responses to suspected cases of abuse or neglect of children ages 12 and under. It increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2019-20, the bill requires and includes an appropriation of \$632,717 to the Department of Public Health and Environment.

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

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 19-1133**

		FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$632,717	\$911,776
	Centrally Appropriated	\$13,507	\$8,358
	Total	\$646,224	\$920,134
	Total FTE	0.6 FTE	0.4 FTE
Transfers		-	-
TABOR Refund		-	-

Summary of Legislation

This bill establishes the Colorado Child Abuse Response and Evaluation Network (CARENnetwork) in the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The CARENnetwork is created to support the provision of medical exams and behavioral health assessments to children age 5 and under in suspected cases of physical or sexual abuse or neglect, and children age 12 under in suspected cases of sexual abuse.

CARENnetwork resource center. The CDPHE is required award a contract to a resource center to establish the CARENnetwork by November 1, 2019. The resource center must be a nationally recognized organization specializing in child abuse pediatrics with the expertise to establish standards for the CARENnetwork, and to provide education and training for designated providers.

The resource center will:

- work to increase local capacity of providers to perform health assessments for suspected cases of physical or sexual abuse or neglect;
- develop best practice standards, including a review of national accreditation standards, for exams and assessments;
- develop a streamlined medical and behavioral health referral process;
- establish a structure to ensure a coordinated response to suspected cases of abuse;
- encourage participation and enhance the role of providers in multidisciplinary teams in local communities to provide support for the CARENnetwork;
- collaborate with existing local programs to provide education, training, collaborative mentorship, and support for providers, including education and training about signs that children may be at risk of abuse and resources available to families;
- collect and analyze data to identify and monitor outcomes of the CARENnetwork; and
- report annually to the CDPHE and the Department of Human Services (DHS).

State Expenditures

The bill increases state General Fund expenditures in the CDPHE by \$646,224 and 0.6 FTE in FY 2019-20 and by \$920,134 and 0.4 FTE in FY 2020-21, as shown in Table 2 and discussed below. Workload will also increase in the DHS beginning in FY 2019-20.

**Table 2
 Expenditures Under HB 19-1133**

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Department of Public Health and Environment		
Personal Services	\$41,349	\$25,776
Operating Expenses and Capital Outlay Costs	\$5,368	-
Resource Center Contract	\$586,000	\$586,000
Provider Reimbursements	-	\$300,000
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$13,507	\$8,358
Total Cost	\$646,224	\$920,134
Total FTE	0.6 FTE	0.4 FTE

* Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Department of Public Health and Environment. Beginning in FY 2019-20, CDPHE requires 0.6 FTE Health Professional to assist the stakeholder and rulemaking process; prepare and award the competitive solicitation; and monitor the resource center contract. First-year personal services costs include standard operating expenses and capital outlay and reflect the General Fund paydate shift. Staff reduces to 0.4 FTE in FY 2019-20 once the rulemaking is finished and the contract is in place. The fiscal note assumes that any necessary accounting functions can be accomplished within the CDPHE's existing appropriations.

- *CARENetwork Resource Center contract.* In FY 2019-20, costs will increase annually by an estimated \$586,000 to contract for the resource center. The resource center will define the scope of services; create a payment structure for each medical and behavioral health assessment provided by the CARENetwork; develop a streamlined referral process; perform case reviews of assessments; and offer provider education. The actual contract cost will be established through the competitive solicitation process.
- *Designated provider reimbursements.* Beginning in FY 2021-22, costs will increase by an estimated \$300,000 to reimburse designated providers for medical and behavioral health assessments. It is assumed that provider reimbursements will be passed through to and administered by the resource center. The FY 2020-21 costs assume that 10 health care providers will become designated providers and perform 400 exams at \$750 per exam. As the program becomes established and the number of designated providers increases, these costs will increase.

Department of Human Services. Beginning in FY 2019-20, DHS workload will increase to coordinate with the CDPHE. The DHS receives annual grant funds under the Children's Justice Act and the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act that will support any workload increase and no additional appropriation is required.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are estimated to be \$13,507 in FY 2019-20 and \$8,358 in FY 2020-21.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on May 23, 2019.

State Appropriations

For FY 2019-20, this bill requires and includes a General Fund appropriation of \$632,717 to the Department of Public Health and Environment and an allocation of 0.6 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Public Health and Environment

Human Services
Public Safety

Information Technology
Regulatory Agencies