

**Fiscal Note** 

Status:

# **FINAL FISCAL NOTE**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

**Drafting Number:** LLS 20-1158 Date: September 28, 2020 Bill Status: Signed into Law Rep. Esgar **Prime Sponsors:** 

Fiscal Analyst: Aaron Carpenter | 303-866-4918 Sen. Moreno

This fiscal note reflects the enacted bill, as recommended by the Joint Budget

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#### TRANSFERS FROM UNEXPENDED COUNTY REIMBURSEMENTS **Bill Topic:** □ TABOR Refund Summary of □ State Revenue **Fiscal Impact:** □ State Expenditure □ Local Government State Transfer ■ □ Statutory Public Entity Budget package bill. This bill repeals the potential annual transfers from the General Fund to the Older Coloradans Cash Fund and the Veterans Assistance Grant Program that are triggered when the amount of funding included in the budget for the Senior Citizen and Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemptions is overestimated. In addition, the bill makes a one-time transfer of \$13.0 million from the Older Coloradans Cash Fund to the General Fund in FY 2020-21. No appropriation is required. **Appropriation Summary:**

## Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 20-1387

Committee as part of its FY 2020-21 budget balancing package.

		FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures		-	-
Transfers*	General Fund	\$13.0 million	-
	Cash Funds	(\$13.0 million)	-
	Total	\$0	-
TABOR Refund		-	-

In addition to the one-time transfer shown in Table 1, this bill repeals an ongoing potential transfer from the General Fund. See State Transfer section for additional detail.

## **Summary of Legislation**

Under current law, if the total amount of reimbursements to local governments for the Senior Citizen and Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption (senior and veterans tax exemption) is less than what was estimated in the state's budget, then 95 percent of the excess funds is transferred to the Senior Services Account (account) of the Older Coloradans Cash Fund and 5 percent is transferred to the Veterans Assistance Grant Program Cash Fund. This bill repeals these potential automatic transfers. It also transfers any remaining balance of the Senior Services Account to the Older Coloradans Cash Fund, and repeals the account. Lastly, the bill transfers \$13.0 million from the Older Coloradans Cash Fund to the General Fund on July 1, 2020.

## **Background**

In FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19, the Older Coloradans Cash Fund received a total of \$30.9 million and the Veterans Assistance Grant Program Cash Fund received \$1.6 million in transfers from the General Fund as a result of the amount of funding needed for the senior and veterans tax exemption being overestimated. A transfer to these funds from the General Fund is not expected in FY 2019-20.

#### **State Transfers**

The bill makes several changes regarding transfers of funds. First, it requires a one-time \$13.0 million transfer from the Older Coloradans Cash Fund to the General Fund on July 1, 2020.

Second, it repeals the potential automatic transfer from the General Fund to the Older Coloradans Cash Fund and the Veterans Assistance Grant Program Cash Fund when funding for the senior and veterans tax exemptions is overestimated. These transfers do not occur every year and depend on numerous factors, including legislative decisions on funding local reimbursement for the senior and veterans tax exemption, the number of people claiming the tax credit, and local property tax conditions. For this reason, an exact amount of the potential transfers being repealed cannot be estimated.

Third, upon the effective date of the bill, the balance of the Senior Services Account will be transferred to the Older Coloradans Cash Fund. This amount has not been estimated.

#### **Effective Date**

This bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 29, 2020.

#### State and Local Government Contacts

Human Services Military Affairs