



Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Revised Fiscal Note

(replaces fiscal note dated March 18, 2021)

Drafting Number:	LLS 21-0576	Date:	April 22, 2021
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Fields; Coram Rep. Herod; Caraveo	Bill Status:	Senate Appropriations
		Fiscal Analyst:	Matt Bishop 303-866-4796 Matt.Bishop@state.co.us

Bill Topic: EQUITY STRATEGIC PLAN ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES

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 renames Health Disparities Grant Program, expands its functions, increases membership of the Health Equity Commission, and requires the Department of Public Health and Environment to prepare a biennial report on health disparities, among other things. It will increase state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2021-22, the bill requires an appropriation of \$51,783 to the Department of Public Health and Environment.

Fiscal Note Status: The revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 21-181

	Budget Year FY 2021-22	Out Year FY 2022-23
Revenue	-	-
Expenditures		
Cash Funds	\$51,783	\$45,583
Centrally Appropriated	\$19,679	\$18,408
Total Expenditures	\$71,462	\$63,991
Total FTE	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE
Transfers	-	-
TABOR Refund	-	-

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Office of Health Equity (the office) in the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) administers the Health Disparities Grant Program. The grant program is funded from the Health Disparities Grant Program Fund, which receives a portion of annual cigarette and tobacco tax revenue.

This bill renames the program as the Health Disparities and Community Grant Program and expands its functions. The program's grantmaking scope is broadened to address social determinants of health for underrepresented populations. In addition, the bill specifies that the program fund may receive appropriations from the General Assembly, and requires the office to develop grant application criteria for community organizations seeking grant funding.

Every two years, starting January 1, 2022, the office must issue a report on health disparities and inequalities in Colorado that includes an assessment of social determinants of health and recommends strategies to address inequities.

The office is advised by the 15-member Health Equity Commission, which consists of representatives of state agencies and members of the public with diverse backgrounds and expertise. The bill expands the makeup of the commission to 22 members by adding representatives of 7 state agencies. The commission is required to develop an equity strategic plan in response to the office's first report. Each state agency is limited to twenty hours of staff time to develop and implement the plan.

State Expenditures

The bill increases expenditures in several state agencies, primarily CDPHE, by \$71,462 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2021-22 and \$63,991 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2022-23 and future years, as summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under SB 21-181

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
Department of Public Health and Environment		
Personal Services	\$44,908	\$44,908
Operating Expenses	\$675	\$675
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,200	-
Centrally Appropriated Costs ¹	\$19,679	\$18,408
Total Cost	\$71,462	\$63,991
Total FTE	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE

¹ Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Department of Public Health and Environment. CDPHE will have an increase in expenditures of \$71,462 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2021-22 and \$63,991 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2022-23. These costs are for staff to prepare the office's biennial report. Standard operating and capital outlay costs for this staff are shown in Table 2 above. It is assumed costs will be paid from the Health Disparities Grant Program Fund.

Grants. While the bill expands the scope of grantmaking by the CDPHE, the fiscal note assumes that grants will be issued within current funding levels. The General Assembly, at its discretion, may appropriate additional money to the Health Disparities Grant Program to fund additional grants.

Other state agencies. The bill expands the commission to include representatives from the Department of Corrections, the Department of Higher Education, the Department of Labor and Employment, the Department of Local Affairs, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Education. Workload will increase in those agencies to participate on the commission. In addition, state agencies, including those currently on the commission (CDPHE, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing), will have increased workload to develop and implement the equity strategic plan. This workload is limited to twenty hours of staff time per agency and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

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 \$19,679 in FY 2021-22 and \$18,408 in FY 2022-23.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2021-22, the bill requires an appropriations of \$51,783 from the Health Disparities Grant Program Fund to the Department of Public Health and Environment and 0.5 FTE.

Departmental Difference

CDPHE estimates that it will have costs of \$349,626 and 2.7 FTE in FY 2021-22 and \$353,954 and 3.0 FTE in FY 2022-23 to conduct the work required by the bill. The fiscal note has reduced these staffing levels compared to the department estimate based on the staffing required for similar types of work in other legislation and programs.

State and Local Government Contacts

Corrections

Governor

Higher Education

Labor

Public Health and Environment

Transportation

Education

Health Care Policy and Financing

Human Services

Local Affairs

Public Safety