

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING A STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR REFERRAL TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REQUIRING GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS TO BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ANNUAL GRANTS TO HELP FUND THE SYSTEM.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Snyder and Rich
Sens. Hansen and Priola

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Appropriation Items of Note

Appropriation Required, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/04/22.

XXX	No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	Non-Concurrence: JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
J.001	Staff-prepared appropriation amendment

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.001 Staff has prepared amendment **J.001** (attached) to add a provision appropriating a total of \$5.0 million General Fund in FY 2021-22 and \$2,055,645 General Fund in FY 2022-23 to the Department of Human Services. This provision also states that the FY 2022-23 appropriation is based on the assumption that the Department will require an additional 0.9

FTE. The provision further states that the any unexpended appropriation in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 is made available in the subsequent fiscal year, respectively.

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2022-23 based on the March 2022 Legislative Council Staff revenue forecast. The budget package includes two set-asides:

- \$40.0 million General Fund for bills that create ongoing obligations; and
- \$900.0 million General Fund for bills that create one-time obligations in FY 2022-23.

The \$40.0 million *appropriations* set-aside includes an additional \$6.0 million General Fund to provide a 15.0 percent General Fund reserve for those appropriations. The \$900.0 million *obligations* set-aside does not include an additional amount for a General Fund reserve and, assumes, but does not require, that obligations be addressed through statutory transfers rather than appropriations. Therefore *appropriations* from the \$900.0 million set-aside require an additional 15.0 percent to maintain the statutory General Fund reserve.

This bill creates an ongoing obligation and requires a General Fund appropriation of \$5.0 million for FY 2021-22 and \$2.1 million for FY 2022-23, reducing the \$40.0 million set aside by \$7.1 million.

Future Budget Processes

Section 2 of this bill adds Section 29-11-203 (4)(a), C.R.S., which requires the General Assembly to appropriated \$2.0 million General Fund to the Colorado 2-1-1 Collaborative for FY 2021-22 and ongoing, regardless of program effectiveness or the availability of appropriations. Additionally, Section 29-11-203 (4)(c) provides the Department with roll-forward spending authority for these appropriations. Is it necessary and appropriate to **require** the General Assembly to appropriate General Fund to a program, rather than require the program to be assessed on an annual basis through the normal budgeting process?