



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 24-0224	Date:	August 9, 2024
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Lukens; Velasco Sen. Marchman; Mullica	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: **EDUCATOR SAFETY TASK FORCE**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School District

The bill creates a task force in the Department of Public Safety to study school safety. The bill will increase state expenditures in FY 2024-25 only.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$146,250 to the Department of Public Safety.

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

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1320**

		Budget Year FY 2024-25	Out Year FY 2025-26
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$146,250	-
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	General Fund Reserve	\$21,938	-

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the 18-member Educator Safety Task Force to study issues relating to safety of public school staff. By July 1, 2024, appointments to the task force must be made by the Governor, Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, and House and Senate Minority Leaders. The task force must meet at least seven times in FY 2024-25, with the first meeting by September 1, 2024. The task force must study:

- laws and regulations that affect safety of public school staff;
- the influence of special education professionals on student behavior;
- the effect of staff shortages, increased class sizes and caseloads on disruptive learning environments;
- aggressive student behaviors towards public school staff and if those behaviors have resulted in suspensions, abbreviated school days, and the mental health needs of the student;
- recommendations of other school task forces; and,
- the effect of insufficient school funding and resource inequality on learning environments and public school staff safety.

The task force must make recommendations and submit a report to the legislature by June 30, 2025. Solutions must not include additional discipline that causes students of color to be disproportionately referred to law enforcement. The bill is repealed on December 31, 2025.

State Expenditures

Department of Public Safety. The bill will increase state expenditures in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) in FY 2024-25 only, paid from the General Fund. It is assumed that the DPS will convene the task force for 13 meetings, requiring approximately 50 hours of contracted service hours per meeting. These contractors will collect data, write reports, and facilitate meetings at a rate of \$225 per hour, resulting in total costs of \$146,250. Estimates are based on similar task force for the DPS. If the task force meets less or more frequently than assumed, costs may vary from this estimate.

Governor's Office and Legislative Branch. Workload will increase for the Governor and legislative leadership to make the required appointments to the task force. This additional workload is assumed to be minimal; no additional appropriation is required.

Other Budget Impacts

General Fund reserve. Under current law, an amount equal to 15 percent of General Fund appropriations must be set aside in the General Fund statutory reserve. Based on this fiscal note, the bill is expected to increase the amount of General Fund held in reserve by the amounts shown in Table 1, decreasing the amount of General Fund available for other purposes.

School District

Public school staff members who are appointed to the task force will attend the task force meetings and assist in developing the required recommendations. Time spent attending these meeting may require substitute staff coverage depending on when the task force chooses to meet. Additional expenses to cover staff absences are assumed to be minimal.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 5, 2024.

State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires and includes a General Fund appropriation of \$146,250 to the Department of Public Safety

State and Local Government Contacts

Early Childhood

Education

Public Safety

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).