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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 24-1153 Date: July 31, 2024
Prime Sponsors: Rep. McLachlan; Hartsook Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:
State Revenue [ ] State Transfer [ ] Local Government [ ]
State Expenditure [x] TABOR Refund [ ] Statutory Public Entity [ ]

The bill requires the Colorado Department of Education to contract with an institution of higher education to make available a free professional development program for science educators. The bill increases state expenditures in FY 2024-25.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2024-25, the bill includes an appropriation of \$3.0 million to the Colorado Department of Education.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1446

Table with 3 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2024-25, Out Year FY 2025-26. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (State Education Fund), Transfers, and Other Budget Impacts.

## Summary of Legislation

The bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) contract with a Colorado institution of higher education to develop and offer a free, optional professional development program to improve teaching around the Colorado academic standards in science. The program must include instruction on interventions for students who are below grade level or struggling in science, children with disabilities, and students who are English language learners. Teachers who participate in this professional development may earn credit towards license renewal. Rural school districts must be prioritized if demand for the training exceeds capacity. The program must be available beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

By January 30, 2027, the CDE must report to the General Assembly and the State Board of Education the number of eligible teachers, disaggregated by license type and local education provider, who participated in the program.

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires that the General Assembly appropriate \$3.0 million from the State Education Fund to the CDE. Unexpended funds remain available to the department through FY 2026-27.

## State Expenditures

**Department of Education.** The bill increases costs in the CDE by \$3.0 million in FY 2024-25, paid from the State Education Fund. CDE will use funds for the administrative expenses of the procurement process, and to contract with an institution of higher education to develop and provide the required science pedagogy professional development program.

**Institution of Higher Education.** The selected institution of higher education will use funds received from the CDE to develop and administer the additional professional development training to eligible teachers.

## Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 23, 2024, and takes effect on August 7, 2024, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

## State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill includes an appropriation of \$3.0 million from the State Education Fund to the Colorado Department of Education.

## State and Local Government Contacts

Education	Higher Education
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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](#).