



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-027: TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOL SAFETY PRACTICES

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Marchman
Rep. Joseph

Fiscal Analyst:

Josh Abram, 303-866-3561
josh.abram@coleg.gov

Published for: Senate Education

Drafting number: LLS 25-0023

Version: Initial Fiscal Note

Date: January 14, 2025

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill creates a work group in the Department of Public Safety to develop recommendations for the use of trauma-informed practices in conducting school safety drills.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas in FY 2025-26 only:

- State Expenditures
- School Districts
- Local Government

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$146,250 to the Department of Public Safety.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (General Fund)	\$146,250	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates a work group in the Office of School Safety in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to develop best practices and recommendations for the use of trauma-informed practices to conduct school safety drills. Trauma-informed practices refer to a systematic approach that recognizes the prevalence of adverse and traumatic experiences of school safety drills, and equips school personnel with knowledge to recognize trauma and the strategies that support students and staff who experience trauma.

The work group includes representatives from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA), the Department of Higher Education (DHE), and the DPS, as well as school district superintendents, principals, teachers, mental health professionals, law enforcement, and other experts in child development—in total 25 voting members and 4 non-voting members. The work group must obtain input from parents and students who reflect the diversity of the state.

The work group must meet virtually at least four times in 2025 and three times in 2026, with the first meeting no later than September 1, 2025. The DPS must contract with an independent contractor to provide the work group with research, data analysis, and facilitation services. By June 30, 2026, the work group must submit a report to the DPS and the legislature containing their findings and recommendations.

State Expenditures

The bill increases expenditures in the DPS by \$146,250 in FY 2025-26 only, paid from the General Fund.

Department of Public Safety

The department will contract for consulting services to research and gather data to analyze school safety issues and the application of trauma-informed practices, convene and facilitate meetings of the work group, and assist them in the development of recommendations and implementation plans for public schools. The fiscal note assumes that the work group will require 8 regular meetings and 5 subcommittee meetings over the course of FY 2025-26. Assuming approximately 50 hours of contracted services for each of the 13 meetings, at a contract rate of \$225 per hour, the total estimated cost is \$146,250.

In addition to the vendor contract, the DPS will have expenses to conduct the procurement process, and to provide reimbursement for travel expenses for any in-person work group meetings; however, these expenses do not require new appropriations.

Other State Agencies

The bill also increases workload for the CDE, the BHA, the DHE, and the DPS to participate in the work group. These agencies, as well as the legislature and the Governor's office, will be required to make appointments to the work group. This work can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

School Districts and Local Government

Public school staff members and local law enforcement who are appointed to the work group will attend the committee and subcommittee meetings and assist in developing the required recommendations. Time spent attending meetings may require staff coverage. Additional expenses to cover administrative staff absences may be incurred by the school district or local government employing the representative.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$146,250 to the Department of Public Safety.

State and Local Government Contacts

Behavioral Health Administration

Higher Education

Education

Public Safety

Governor's Office of Boards and
Commissions

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](#).