



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0256
Prime Sponsors:

Date: October 4, 2019
Bill Status: Bill Request
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Bill Topic: GRANTS FOR 911 DISPATCHERS' MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

This bill expands the eligibility for the Peace Officer and Mental Health Support Grant Program and changes its name. This bill increases state and local government costs and workload beginning in FY 2020-21.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Mental Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, peace officer organizations are eligible to apply for the Peace Officer and Mental Health Support Grant Program, administered by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). Grant funds can be used to provide mental health services to peace officers including counseling services, on-scene services to support officers handling persons with mental health disorders, assistance in the development of use of force policies, job-related mental trauma training, and peer support programs. This bill permits agencies that operate a 24-hour 911 call facility to also receive grants from DOLA to support 911 dispatchers and changes the name of the program to the Peace Officers and Public Safety Telecommunicators Mental Health Support Grant Program.

Background

The Peace Officer and Mental Health Support Grant Program was created in 2017. In 2019, grants totaling \$2.0 million were awarded to a total of 21 grant recipients. After accounting for administrative costs, approximately \$400,000 remains in the fund.

**State Expenditures**

The bill increases DOLA workload by a minimal amount to update grant policies and procedures and to review additional grant application requests. It is assumed that grants will be awarded from funds currently in the Peace Officers Mental Health Support Fund in FY 2020-21, and that DOLA will request additional funds needed through the annual budget process.

**Local Government**

By expanding the pool of eligible grant recipients, the bill may increase grant applications for mental health services for local law enforcement and emergency response agencies.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties	Information Technology	Local Affairs
Municipalities	Sheriffs	