



The Legislative Operating Budget

And Planning for FY 2024-25

Natalie Castle
Director
Legislative Council Staff

Executive Committee
January 23, 2024

Outline

- FY 2023-24 appropriations
 - Salary/benefits vs. everything else
 - What's in the operating budget?
 - A history of aide compensation
- Automatic budget adjustments
- Staff-initiated decision items
- Budget process & timeline
- Long Bill appropriations: recommendations to the JBC



Legislative Department FY 2023-24 Budget

Total: \$75.5 million

	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop.	Total
Legislative Appropriations Bill	\$65.5 million	\$90,000	\$1.6 million	\$67.3 million
Other bills	\$1.2 million	\$0	\$0	\$1.2 million
Long Bill	\$6.7 million	\$0	\$0.3 million	\$7.0 million
Total	\$73.5 million	\$90,000	\$1.9 million	\$75.5 million

LCS: \$3.0 million, Blue Book
\$752,000, Property Tax Study
\$270,000 Cost of Living Study

Joint GA: \$2.6 million, maintenance of legislative space



Legislative Appropriations from Other Legislation

FY 2023-24: \$1,252,034

■ HB 23-1295, HCPF Provider Payment Audits	\$850,000
■ SB 23-295, CO River Drought Task Force	\$200,000
■ HB 23B-1003, Commission on Property Tax	\$80,271
■ HB 23-1294, Pollution Protection Measures	\$61,616
■ SB 23-076, Sunset Cont. CO Youth Advisory Council	\$50,000
■ SB 23-035, Middle-income Housing Authority Act	\$3,774
■ HB 23-1105, Homeowners Rights Task Force	\$1,887
■ SB 23-275, CO Wild Horse Project	\$1,654
■ HB 23-1254, Corp. Housing Ownership Task Force	\$1,416
■ SB 23-029, Disproportionate Discipline Public Schools	\$1,415

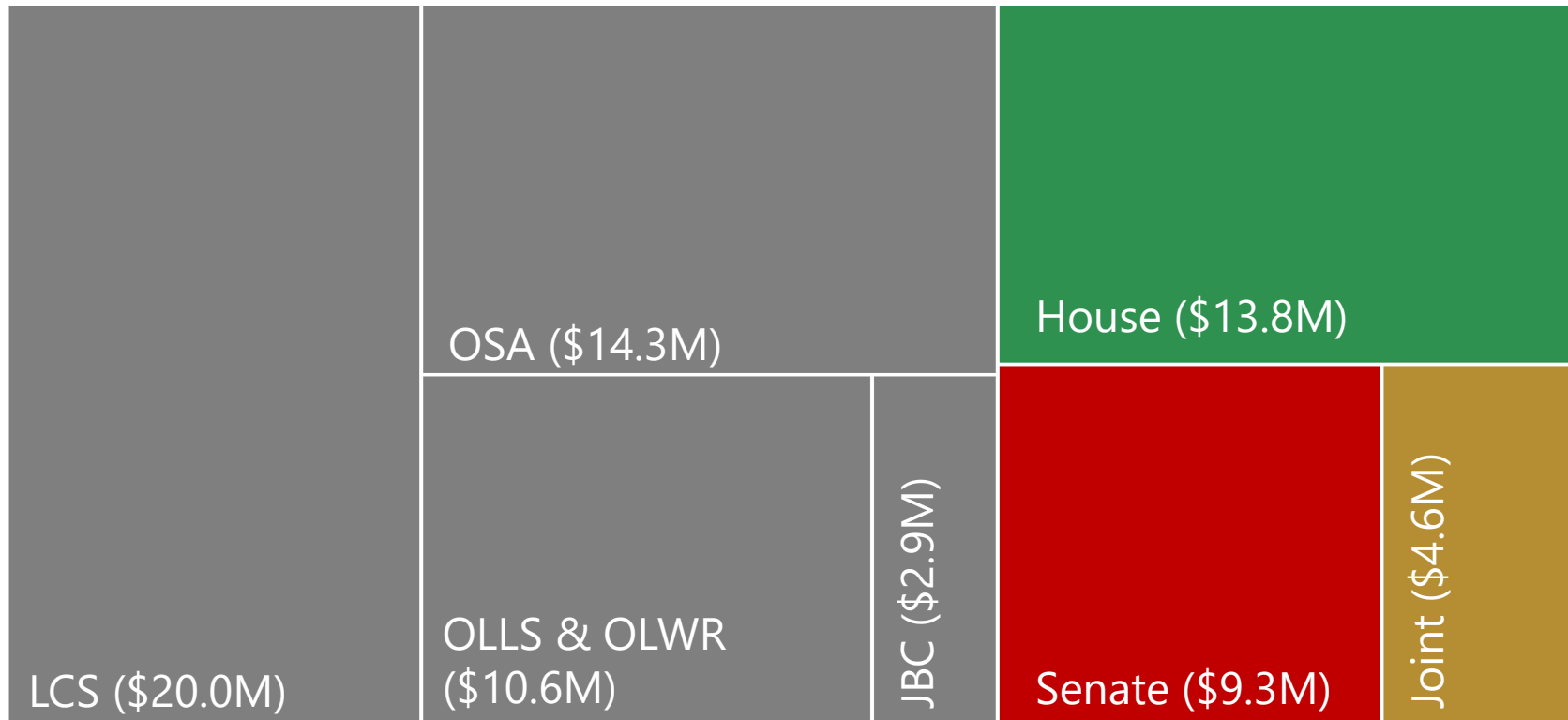


Legislative Branch FY 2023-24 Appropriations

\$75.5 Million

Service Agencies (\$47.8M)

General Assembly (\$27.7M)



Tree chart does not show \$50,000 to the Youth Advisory Council. Totals may not sum due to rounding.



Legislative Branch FY 2023-24 Appropriations

Full Time Equivalent Staff, 442.3 FTE

Service Agencies (268.9 FTE)

General Assembly

(173.4 FTE, not including members)

<u>LCS</u> 103.5 FTE <i>Includes 7 session-only</i>	<u>OSA</u> 81.1 FTE		<u>House</u> (167.5 FTE) 65 Members Aides: 58.5 FTE Full Time: 24.8 FTE 32 session-only (19.2 FTE)	
	<u>OLLS & OLWR</u> 64.2 FTE	<u>JBC</u> 20.1 FTE	<u>Senate</u> (102.5 FTE) 35 Members Aides: 31.5 FTE Full Time: 24.0 FTE 20 session-only (12.0 FTE)	<u>Joint</u> 3.4 FTE

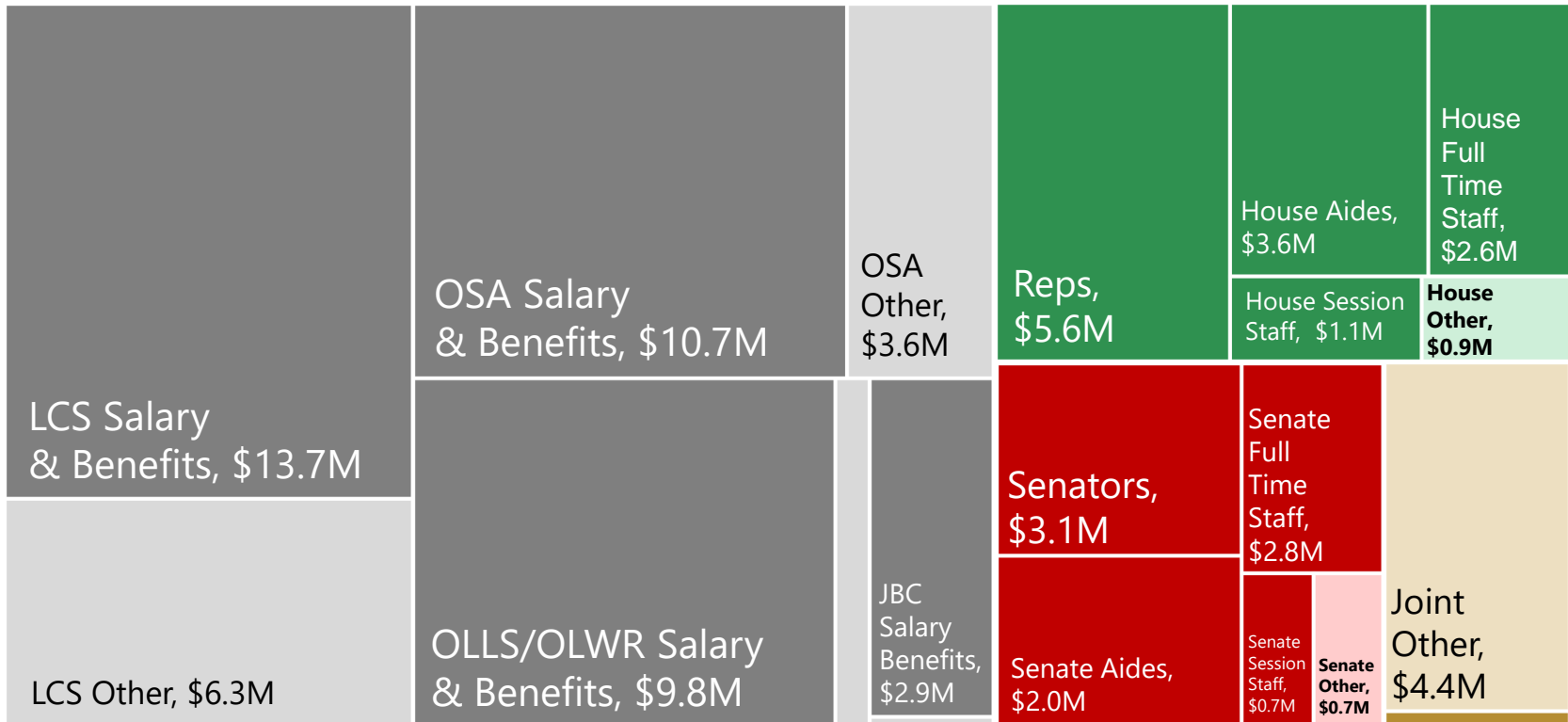


Legislative Branch FY 2023-24 Appropriations

Salary & Benefits Emphasized (78% of Budget)

Service Agencies (\$47.8M)

General Assembly (\$27.7M)



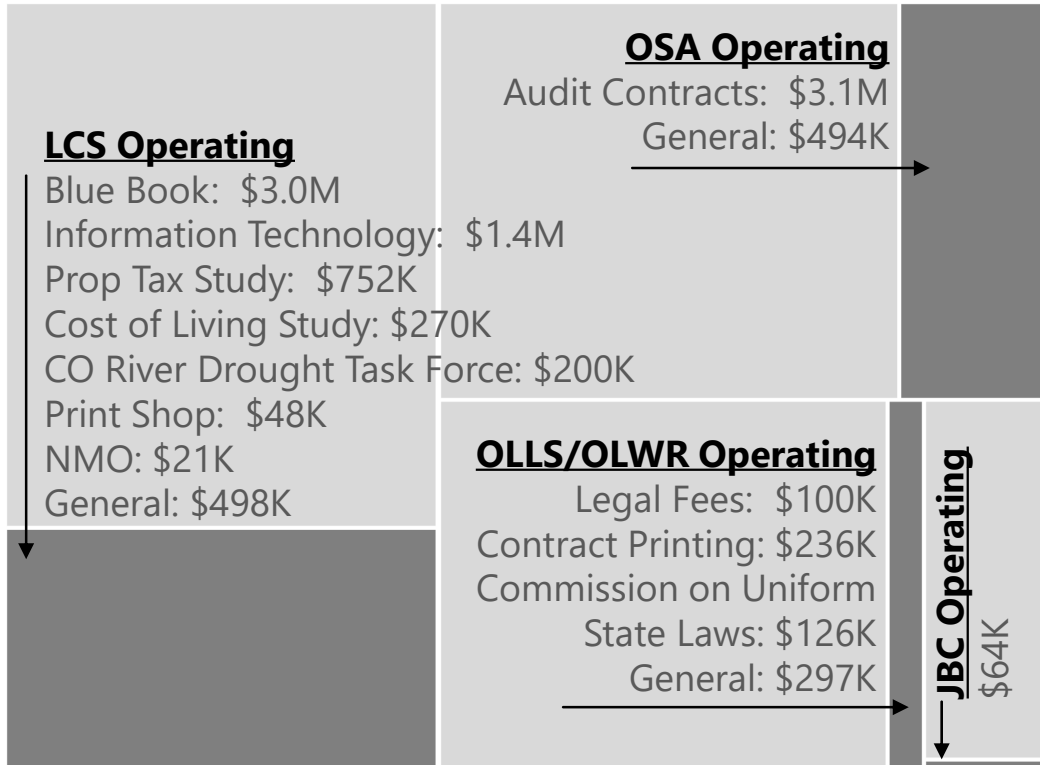
Tree chart does not show \$50,000 to the Youth Advisory Council. Totals may not sum due to rounding.



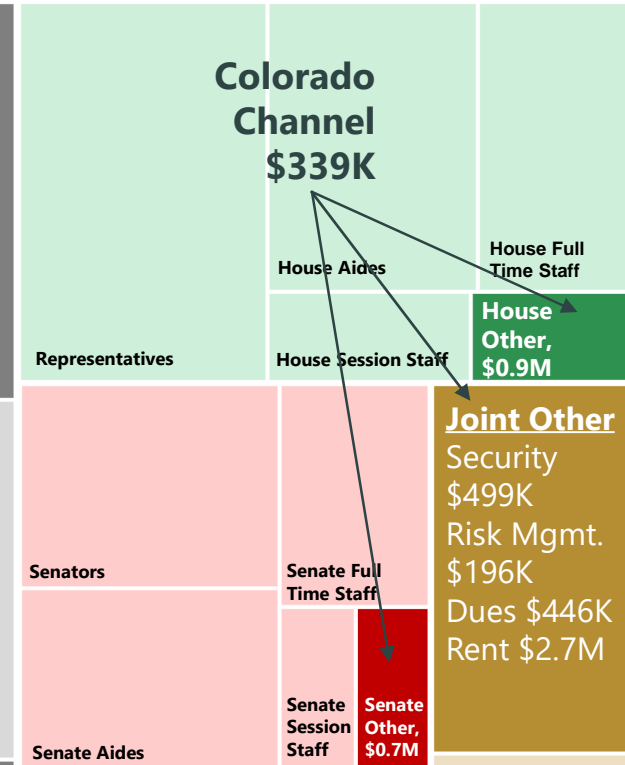
Legislative Branch FY 2023-24 Appropriations

What's in the Operating Budget?

Service Agencies (\$47.8M)



General Assembly (\$27.7M)

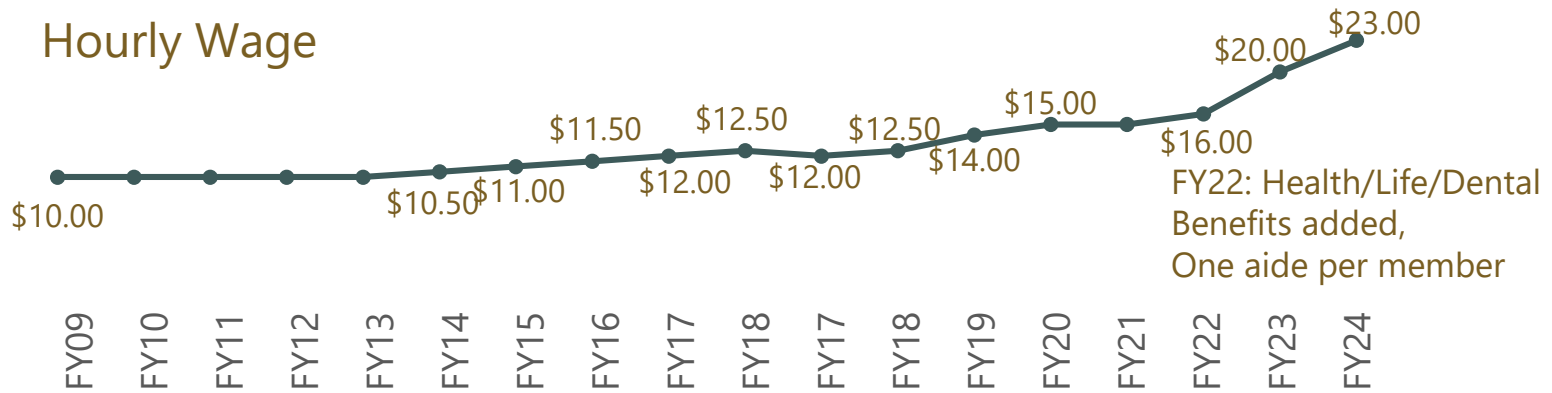


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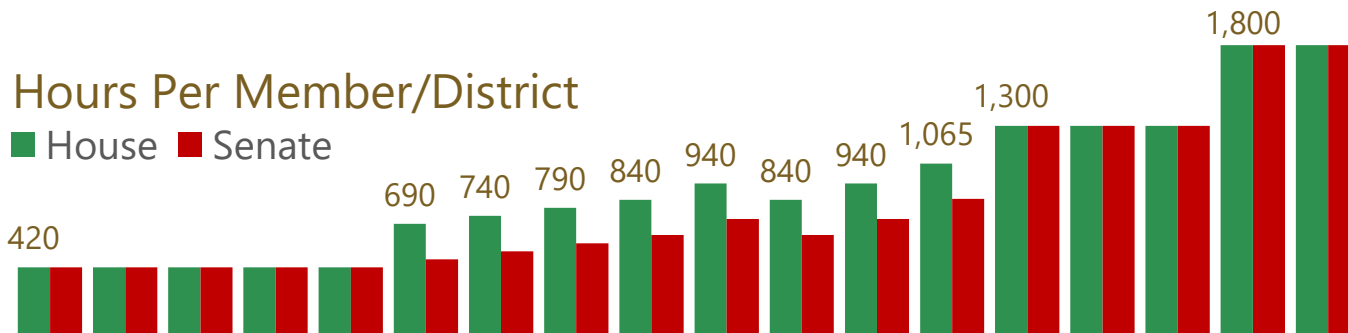
A history of aide compensation

Hourly Wage



Hours Per Member/District

■ House ■ Senate



Aides: Stipends and RTD EcoPass

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Stipends	\$10 per day, per member	\$10 per day, per member	\$10 per day, per member	\$10 per day, per member	The value of the stipend was rolled into wages for FY24.
	Only available during session.		Only available during session, except the JBC aides are eligible beginning in November.		
	Originally intended to offset transportation costs, but was alternatively available to offset telecommunication costs beginning in late FY 2019-20, although the two purposes were not consistently tracked for all four years.				
RTD EcoPass	Unavailable			Available for aides who do not receive stipends	One aide per member in 2024



Automatic Budget Adjustments

Member Compensation Set in Statute

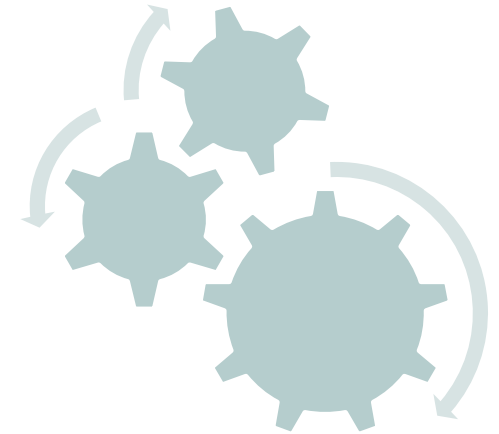


- Member Salary: 25% of Class B County Court Judge Salary
 - Terms starting January 2021: \$41,449/year (*about half of Senate*)
 - Terms starting January 2023: \$43,977/year (*everybody else*)
 - Terms starting January 2025: Salaries will increase for all House members and about half of the Senate
- Per diem
 - Session, metro: fixed \$45/day for members living within a 50-mile radius
 - Session, non-metro: Up from \$237/day to \$238/day (*85% of federal per diem*)
 - Interim: fixed \$99/day for statutorily-authorized committees & events
- Travel
 - Mileage up from 59 to 60 cents/mile



Automatic Budget Adjustments

PERA and Common Policies



- PERA contributions
 - Employer contribution up from 21.57% to 21.61%
 - Employee contribution holding steady at 11.0%
- FAMILI: increasing from 0 to 0.45% (for both employer and employee)
- Short term disability: no change at 0.15%
- Medicare tax: no change at 1.45%
- Health, life, dental, and vision premiums (*going up*)



Staff-Initiated Decision Items

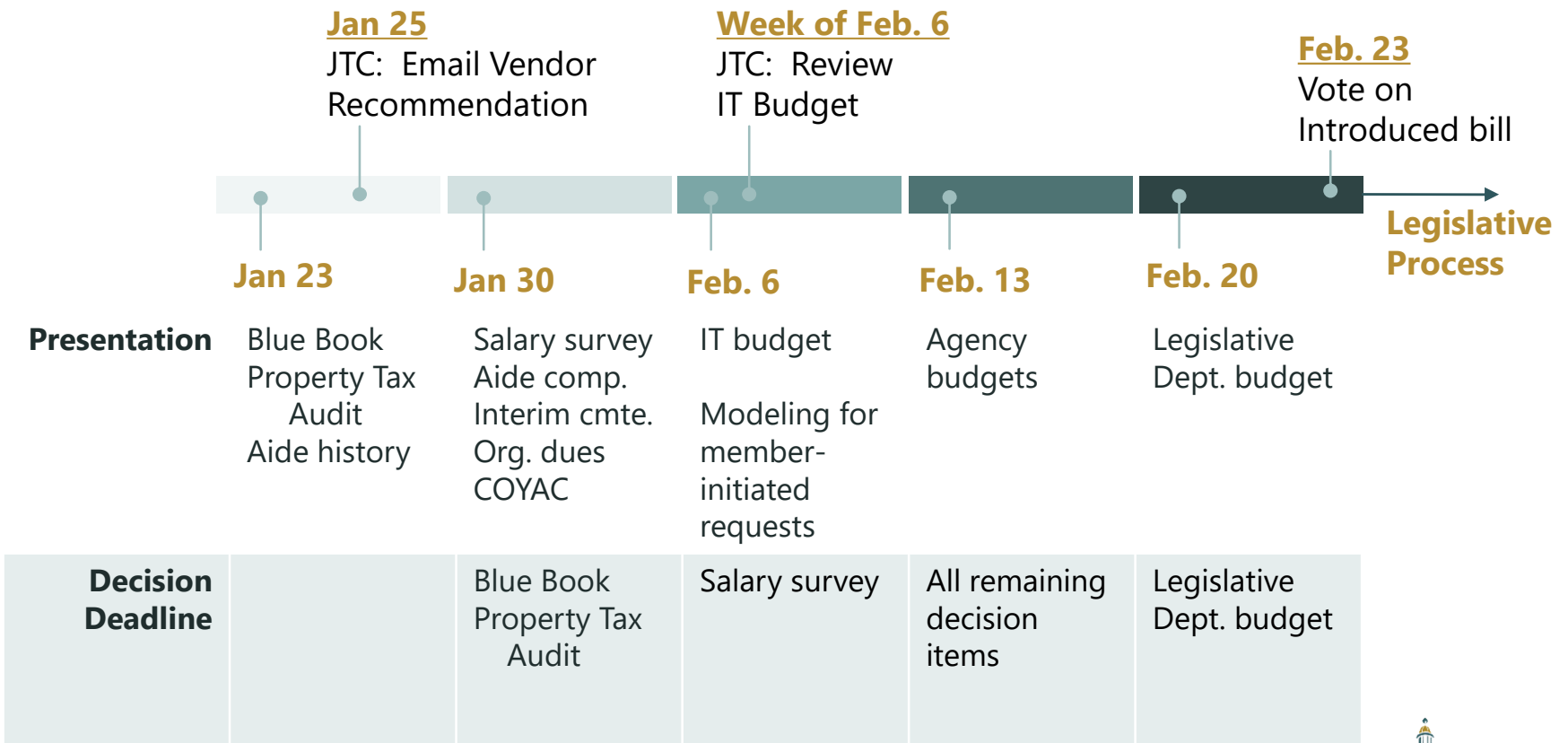
- Long Bill Appropriations
 - Blue Book
 - Property tax study
 - Cost of living study
- Aide hours and compensation
- Organizational dues
 - NCSL, CSG-West, Energy Council, Education Commission of the States
- Legislative employee salary increases
 - Set by leadership; historically set to JBC Salary Survey
- Interim committee funding
- New information technology budget requests



Legislative Council Staff, May 2023



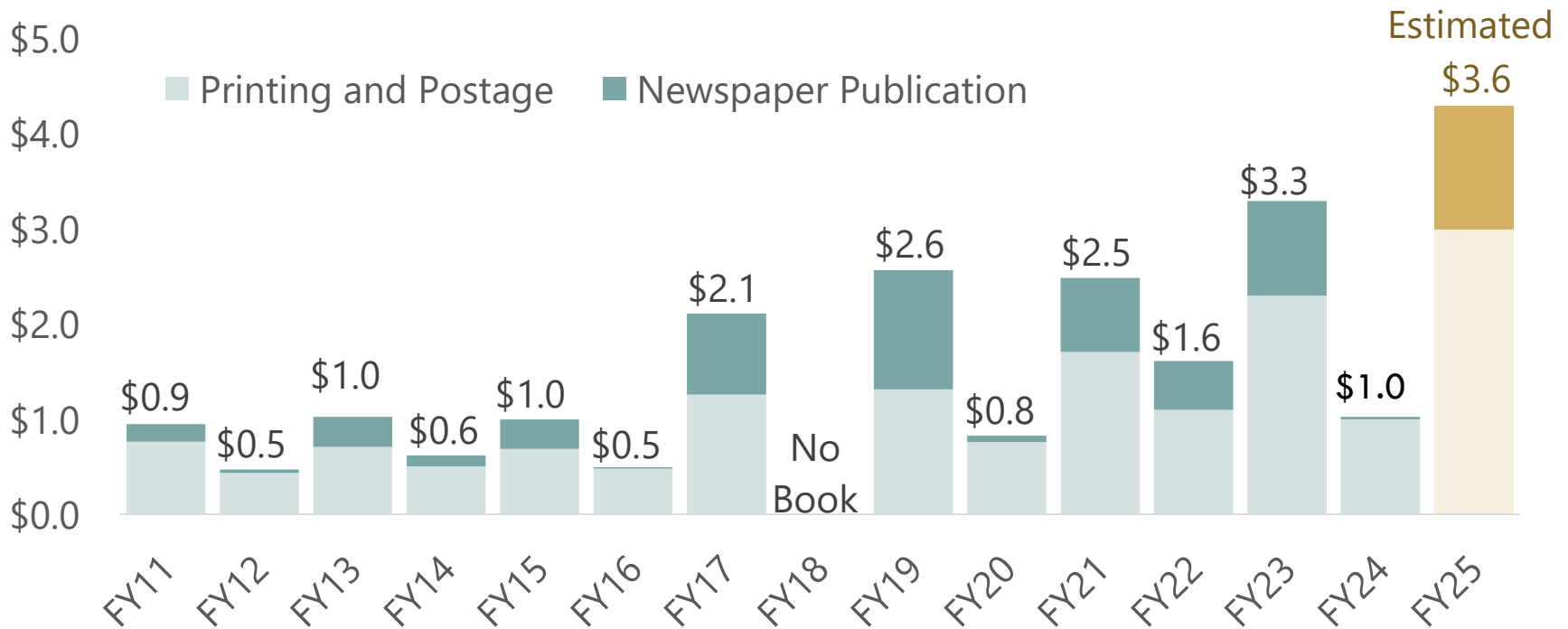
Legislative Appropriations Bill Process & Timeline



Long Bill Appropriations

Blue Book Costs: History & Estimates

Millions of dollars



Long Bill Appropriations

History and Forecast of Blue Book Fund Balance

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimated	Estimated
Budget Year	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25
Blue Book	2019 Book	2020 Book	2021 Book	2022 Book	2023 Book	2024 Book
Begin Balance	\$1,504,101	\$2,100,863	\$1,251,202	\$1,240,222	\$385,536	2,379,407
Appropriation	\$1,400,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$2,500,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Expenditures	\$829,666	\$2,467,576	\$1,611,990	\$3,327,810	\$1,040,198	\$3,602,754
Net Interest	\$26,429	\$17,915	(\$1,010)	(\$26,876)	* \$34,068.65	\$25,808
End Balance	\$2,100,863	\$1,251,202	1,240,222	\$385,536	* 2,379,407	1,802,461

*estimated figures are in green

Recommendation: \$3.0 million (*no change*)

Why: This assumes a similar number of measures on the 2024 ballot as 2022, historical increases in the cost of paper and postage, and continuing to provide bilingual books to those counties required to receive Spanish language materials pursuant to the Federal Voting Act. This also hedges against risk by ensuring a sufficient fund balance.



Long Bill Appropriations

Property Tax Audit Appropriation

Study objective: To determine if county assessors are correctly and consistently applying constitutional and statutory provisions to arrive at the actual value of property. This study also produces detailed property tax data for the legislative and executive branches.

Colo. Const. art X, § 3; Sections 39-1-104 and 2-3-304, C.R.S.

Recommendation: \$752,000 (*no change*)

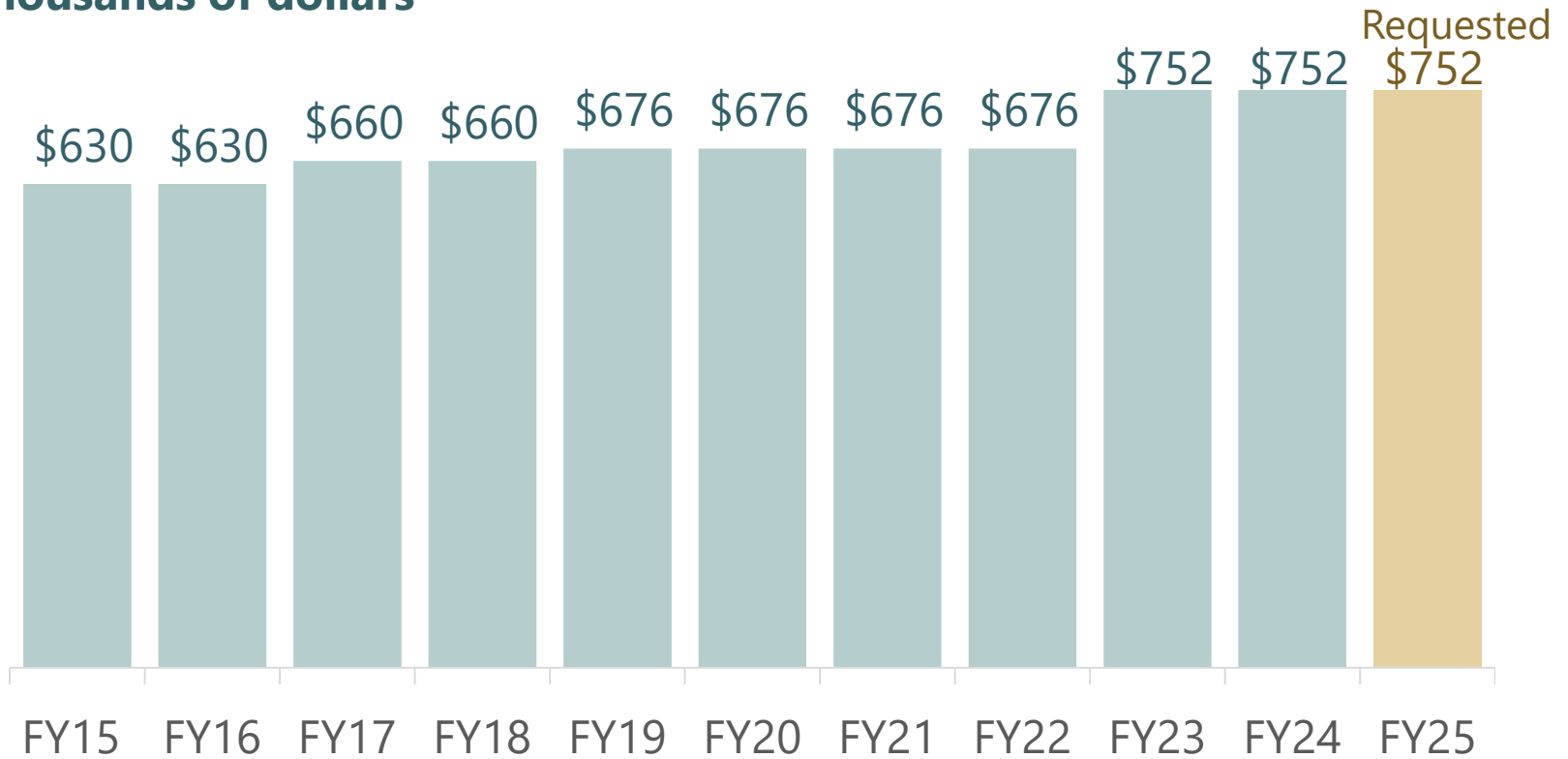
Why: The contractor, East West Econometrics, indicated that they expect to be able to fulfill their obligations within the same appropriation as FY 2024.



Long Bill Appropriations

Property Tax Audit Appropriation

Thousands of dollars



Questions?

Natalie Castle

Director • Legislative Council Staff

Natalie.Castle@coleg.gov • (303) 866-4778

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