



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Initiative 19

Fiscal Summary

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LCS TITLE: STUDENT FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION

Fiscal Summary of Initiative 19

This fiscal summary, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council, contains a preliminary assessment of the measure's fiscal impact. A full fiscal impact statement for this initiative is or will be available at www.colorado.gov/bluebook. This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

State and local education spending. For the current FY 2022-23, the state and local school districts are projected to spend about \$8.4 billion on public school funding through the funding formula in the state's School Finance Act, including \$5.0 billion from the state and \$3.4 billion in local revenue. Additional amounts are spent on gifted and talented programs, special education, student health, and a variety of other programs and services.

Initiative 19 will potentially impact how education funding is allocated among school districts, as well as the total amount of funding required for all students statewide, including both public, private, and homeschooled students. If a portion of current school district funding is directed toward other uses, such as private or home school, by parents, available funding for public schools will be reduced. Such a shift could require an increase in either state or local funding, or both, in order to maintain current funding levels for public schools and provide funding for private and homeschooled students. Any changes in state and local spending on education will depend on how the state legislature modifies current laws to align with the measure.

Economic impacts. To the extent the bill changes the educational offerings available to some children, educational and economic outcomes for those students may change.