



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1029: STUDENT REPRESENTATION COMMISSION ON HIGHER ED

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Hamrick
Sen. Marchman

Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: House Education**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0174**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** January 20, 2026

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill expands the membership of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to include student representatives.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas beginning in FY 2027-28:

- State Expenditures

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (General Fund)	\$0	\$3,460
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 expands the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) from 11 to 13 members. The new members must be students, one of which is enrolled at a public four-year institution and one of which is enrolled at a public two-year institution. These students serve two-year terms on the CCHE.

The existing regional representation requirements do not apply to these new student members. If a student member of CCHE withdraws from their institution, the bill creates a vacancy process. The bill requires the CCHE, to the extent practicable, to include members with disabilities and who reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the state.

Under current law, the advisory committee to the CCHE consists of 13 members, one of whom must a student at an institution of higher education. The bill reduces this committee membership to 12 members and removes the requirement for a student to serve on the advisory committee.

Background

The Department of Higher Education (CDHE) currently reimburses commission members for attendance at two in-person meetings per month, as well as mileage reimbursement and lodging costs for an annual retreat. Advisory committee members are reimbursed at a lower rate for in-person meetings. On average, each commissioner is reimbursed a total of \$2,500 annually for meeting attendance and annual retreat expenses, while advisory committee members are reimbursed \$1,540 annually.

State Expenditures

Department of Higher Education

By subtracting one member from the advisory committee and adding two commissioners to CCHE, the bill will increase reimbursement expenses in the CDHE on net by \$3,460 annually, as detailed in the background section above. This change in annual reimbursement is assumed to begin on July 1, 2027, when bill requires the Governor to have made the additional appointments.

Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions

Workload will minimally increase for the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions to make the required appointments under the bill. This work can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Governor's Office

Higher Education