



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB17-1160

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0785

Date: February 15, 2017

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Hamner; Wilson
Sen. Priola; Fields

Bill Status: House Education

Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

BILL TOPIC: K-3 ENGLISH LEARNER READING ASSESSMENT LANGUAGE

Summary of Legislation

For students enrolled in kindergarten through third grade who are English language learners, this bill specifies that school districts or charter schools must decide whether the student takes required reading assessments in English, or in the student's native language. If the student takes the assessments in his or her native language, the school district or charter school may also administer the assessments in English if requested by the student's parent. Once assessed, the LEP must communicate to the student's parent the level of English language proficiency the student must possess in order to take the reading assessments in English. If possible, this communication must be made in a language the parent understands.

Background

Under current law, local education providers are required to measure each early grade student's reading competency using interim reading assessments throughout the school year. Local education providers may also administer a summative assessment to measure students' reading competency at the conclusion of kindergarten, first, and second grades. The State Board of Education has adopted both English and Spanish reading assessments for early grade learners.

Assessment

The bill permits local education providers to choose the language in which it will test certain students. This authority is not anticipated to have a material impact on the workload of those districts and charter schools. The bill is not anticipated to increase the number of reading assessments administered to early grade students. For these reasons, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Education School Districts