



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1149: COMPREHENSIVE BLACK HISTORY & CULTURE ED IN K-12

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. English
Sen. Exum

Fiscal Analyst:

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Fiscal note status: The revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the House Education Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires the State Board of Education to adopt standards regarding Black American history and creates a committee in the Department of Education to assist in developing these standards.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- State Revenue
- State Expenditures
- School Districts

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$19,225 to the Department of Education.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

| Type of Impact ¹ | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | Out Year FY 2026-27 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| State Revenue | \$0 | \$0 |
| State Expenditures | \$23,498 | \$11,749 |
| Transferred Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in TABOR Refunds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in State FTE | 0.2 FTE | 0.1 FTE |

¹ Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the table below.

Table 1A
State Expenditures

| Fund Source | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | Out Year FY 2026-27 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| General Fund | \$19,225 | \$9,613 |
| Cash Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Centrally Appropriated | \$4,273 | \$2,136 |
| Total Expenditures | \$23,498 | \$11,749 |
| Total FTE | 0.2 FTE | 0.1 FTE |

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the State Board of Education (board) to adopt standards for Black Historical and Cultural studies during its next review of state education standards, and creates the 17-member Black Historical and Cultural Studies Advisory Committee (committee) to support the effort.

Committee appointments must be made by August 15, 2025, and members serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses. The committee must make recommendations for developmentally appropriate and comprehensive instruction that meets certain requirements. The committee must also evaluate current state education requirements for black historical and cultural studies in developing its recommendations. During the board's scheduled six-year review of state education standards, the board must consider the committee's recommendations.

Additionally, the committee must identify and recommend educational materials that will be included in a resource bank housed by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This resource bank must be available without charge to school districts, the Charter School Institute, parents, and students.

School districts and the Charter School Institute must incorporate the new standards into K-12 courses.

CDE may accept gifts, grants, and donations for supporting the committee, providing requested technical assistance to schools, and maintaining and updating the resource bank.

Background

CDE's Office of Standards and Instructional Support meets on a periodic basis to assist the board in updating K-12 education standards on a six-year cycle. The next review of social studies standards—the content area where Black Historical and Cultural Studies are typically updated—is scheduled to occur in 2028. As part of the normal timeline, the CDE conducts research and prepares a benchmarking report to be considered by the board when they meet to revise the standards.

State Revenue

The bill may increase state revenue from gifts, grants, and donations. As of writing, no gifts, grants, or donations have been identified. These funds are not subject to TABOR.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the CDE by \$23,500 in FY 2025-26 and \$11,700 in FY 2026-27 only. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below. The bill also minimally affects workload for the Governor's Office.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Department of Education

| Cost Component | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | Out Year FY 2026-27 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Personal Services | \$19,225 | \$9,613 |
| Centrally Appropriated Costs | \$4,273 | \$2,136 |
| Total Costs | \$23,498 | \$11,749 |
| Total FTE | 0.2 FTE | 0.1 FTE |

Department of Education

The CDE requires staff and out-of-cycle costs through FY 2026-27 to implement the bill.

Staff

The CDE will require 0.2 FTE Senior Consultant in FY 2025-26, and 0.1 FTE Senior Consultant in FY 2026-27 only to implement the bill. The senior consultant will incorporate feedback from the committee to update the resource bank and coordinate with local education providers to access, update and utilize educational resources on Black Historical and Cultural Studies.

Standards Reporting and State Board Committee

The Office of Standards and Instructional Support will meet in 2028 to consider updates to the state's history standards and develop the criteria required by the bill. This workload can be accomplished within existing resources for the office.

Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions

Workload will increase in the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions to make the required appointments under the bill, including recruiting, vetting, and interviewing potential appointees. Based on the cumulative impact of all legislation, the Governor's Office may seek funding through the annual budget process, as necessary.

Centrally Appropriated Costs

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which may include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, leased space, and indirect cost assessments, are shown in the expenditure table above.

School District

Beginning in 2028, school districts will adjust their social studies curriculum to adopt standards recommended by the committee. These schools will also contribute to and draw from the resource bank to supplement instruction.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$19,225 to the Department of Education, and 0.2 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Early Childhood
Education

Governor's Office