

**Legislative Council Staff***Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature***Revised Fiscal Note**

(replaces fiscal note dated February 21, 2024)

Drafting Number:	LLS 24-0509	Date:	March 26, 2024
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Bradley Sen. Van Winkle	Bill Status:	House Appropriations
		Fiscal Analyst:	Josh Abram 303-866-3561 josh.abram@coleg.gov

Bill Topic: FUNDING FOR SCHOOL SAFETY FIREARM DETECTION SYSTEMS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School District
--------------------------------------	---	--	--

The bill creates a program in the Department of Public Safety to disburse funding to public schools to install and operate firearm detection software. It increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary:	For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of about \$2.7 million to the Department of Public safety.
-----------------------------------	---

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1123

		Budget Year FY 2024-25	Out Year FY 2025-26
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$2,700,000	\$2,700,000
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	General Fund Reserve	\$405,000	\$405,000

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the School Security Disbursement Program in the Office of School Safety in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) disburses money to local education providers (LEPs) for a variety of specified purposes related to school security and safety. This bill authorizes the purchase, installation and operation of firearm detection software as an allowable use of disbursed funding from the program. The bill specifies that firearm detection software must be designed to integrate with an LEPs existing security cameras and be operated directly by the software vendor using a constantly monitored operations center, among other requirements.

An LEP that receives a disbursement must report specified information back to DPS, and the Office of School Safety must include information collected from recipients in reports made to the relevant committees of the General Assembly.

State Expenditures

The amount of funding provided for the School Safety Program in DPS is decided annually by the General Assembly. This fiscal note assumes that the General Assembly intends to appropriate additional funding beginning FY 2024-25 to allow disbursements for firearm detection software.

The total amount of new funding is at the discretion of the General Assembly; however, it is estimated that about \$2.7 million annually can provide funding for up to 10 school districts of varying size. This includes a one-time installation fee per school, software, licensing, and monitoring. Based on initial cost estimates from qualified vendors, and an assumption of about 500 cameras for large districts, 300 cameras per medium district, and 100 cameras per small school district, funding the program at \$2.7 million will allow grants to be awarded to districts of varying size and geographic locations.

Other Budget Impacts

General Fund reserve. Under current law, an amount equal to 15 percent of General Fund appropriations must be set aside in the General Fund statutory reserve. Based on this fiscal note, the bill is expected to increase the amount of General Fund held in reserve by the amounts shown in Table 1, decreasing the amount of General Fund available for other purposes.

School District

LEPs, including school districts, can apply for funding from the program and the DPS will award funds to applicants in the order in which they were received. Districts that receive funding will have increased workload to coordinate with the vendor for the installation, operation, and licensing of all software and detection services. Districts will have ongoing expenses if they choose to continue operating the detection system after grant funding ends.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$2,700,00 to the Colorado Department of Public Safety.

State and Local Government Contacts

Public Safety

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).