HB 19-1066

Legislative
Council Staff
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FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 19-0629	**Date:**	January 16, 2019
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Buentello	**Bill Status:**	House Education
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Bill Topic: COUNTING SPECIAL EDUCATION IN GRADUATION RATES

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	☐ State Revenue	☐ TABOR Refund
	☒ State Expenditure *(minimal)*	☐ Local Government
	☐ State Transfer	☐ Statutory Public Entity

This bill clarifies the method used to calculate graduation rates at public high schools. The bill minimally increases workload for the Colorado Department of Education.

Appropriation Summary:	No appropriation is required.
Fiscal Note Status:	This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, high school graduation rates are one of the measures used to determine performance of high schools, school districts, the Charter School Institute, and the state as a whole. The State Board of Education defines a method for calculating graduation rates in rule. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, this bill clarifies that a special education student must be counted in the calculation of a high school's graduation rate in the same year he or she completes minimum graduation requirements.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload by a minimal amount for the Colorado Department of Education to update internal guidance documents and to modify the department's Information Management Services data system. This increased workload does not require additional appropriations.

Clarifying that special education students be counted in the same year that they complete graduation requirements has no impact on categorical funding for special education students, school finance, or the operating budgets of schools or districts.

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