

SB 25-215: REPEALING CO STUDENT LEADERS INSTITUTE

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Bridges; Kirkmeyer Rep. Bird; Taggart

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Version: Initial Fiscal Note **Date:** March 31, 2025

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, which is recommended by the Joint Budget Committee as part of the FY 2025-26 Long Bill budget package.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill repeals the Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI) in the Colorado Department of Education.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas beginning in FY 2025-26:

State Transfer

State Expenditures

Appropriations. No appropriation is required. It is assumed that the required reduction in appropriations will be included in the Long Bill for FY 2025-26.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

	Budget Year	Out Year
Type of Impact	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (General Fund)	-\$227,753	-\$227,753
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	-0.1 FTE	-0.1 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill repeals the Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI) in the Colorado Department of Education on September 1, 2026, and specifies that the program will not be operated in FY 2025-26.

Prior to the repeal, the bill requires that the program return any money remaining in the COSLI Cash Fund to each grantor, donor, or student in a proportional amount to the donor's share of the total amount of gifts, grants, donations, or student contributions deposited in the fund. If any additional money remains as of August 31, 2025, the State Treasurer shall transfer all unexpended and unencumbered money to the General Fund.

Background

COSLI is a competitive residential summer academic program for high school students. The institute is housed at the University of Colorado at Denver for four weeks each summer. Under current law, at least 50 percent of students selected must be eligible for free or reduced priced lunch or are first generation students attending higher education. All participants are required to pay or find other sponsorship of \$400 to assist the program in achieving a required non-state match of \$40,000.

State Transfers

Any remaining money from the current FY 2024-25 appropriation that is unspent or unencumbered reverts to the General Fund on June 30, 2025. For FY 2025-26, following a disbursement of funds collected from private sources, any remaining and unspent or unencumbered money in the COSLI Cash Fund reverts to the General Fund on August 31, 2025. The amount of these transfers is expected to be minimal.

State Expenditures

Beginning FY 2025-26, the bill annually reduces state expenditures in the CDE by \$227,753 from the General Fund, as the program will no longer operate.

Effective Date

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

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State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the bill decreases required General Fund appropriations to the Colorado Department of Education by \$227,753, and 0.1 FTE. It is assumed that this reduction will be made in the FY 2025-26 Long Bill, rather than in this bill.

State and Local Government Contacts

Joint Budget Committee Staff