

**JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis**  
**Senate Appropriations Committee**

Concerning modifications to the statewide education accountability system, and,  
in connection therewith, making and reducing an appropriation.

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Representatives Bird; Lukens

Senators Kirkmeyer; Michaelson Jenet

**Date Prepared:**

May 1, 2025

**JBC Analyst:**

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303-866-4960

**Fiscal Impacts**

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Appropriation Already Added to Bill, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

**Fiscal Note Status**

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The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/29/25.

**No Change:** Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

**Amendments in This Packet**

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**J.004**            Staff-prepared appropriation amendment

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill includes an appropriation clause that:

- Reduces the FY 2024-25 General Fund appropriation to the Department of Education by \$81,000.
- Increases total FY 2025-26 appropriations to the Department of Education by \$22,187, including a net increase of \$478,187 General Fund and 3.1 FTE and a decrease of \$456,000 cash funds from the State Education Fund.

*The FY 2025-26 appropriation is \$160,073 General Fund and 1.0 FTE lower than the total required based on the LCS Revised Fiscal Note. However, S.B. 25-315 (Postsecondary Workforce Readiness), as passed out of the House Appropriations Committee on 05/01/25, provides this appropriation to the Department of*

*Education for FY 2025-26. This funding is required for both S.B. 25-315 and H.B. 25-1278 but only needs to be appropriated in one of the two bills. If S.B. 25-315 is enacted as it was amended in the House, no additional appropriation is required in H.B. 25-1278 beyond the amount already included in the bill.*

## Description of Amendments in This Packet

### J.004

Staff amendment **J.004** (attached) to changes the existing appropriation clause to appropriate an additional \$160,073 General Fund and 1.0 FTE to align with the 04/19/25 fiscal note. With this adjustment, the bill will include an appropriation clause that increases total FY 2025-26 appropriations to the Department of Education by \$182,260, including a net increase of \$638,260 General Fund and 4.1 FTE and a decrease of \$456,000 cash funds from the State Education Fund. This amendment also adds a provision authorizing the Department to roll-forward up to \$485,938 of the FY 2025-26 General Fund appropriation for expenditure in FY 2026-27. The appropriation clause will continue to include a reduction of \$81,000 General Fund to appropriations to the Department for FY 2024-25.

*This amendment is only required if an FY 2025-26 appropriation of \$160,073 General Fund and 1.0 FTE to the Department of Education that was added to S.B. 25-315 (Postsecondary Workforce Readiness) in the House is not included in the enacted version of S.B. 25-315.*

## Points to Consider

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### General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2025-26 based on the March 2025 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$18.2 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2025 Legislation	
Description	FY 2025-26 Appropriation
Juvenile diversion, deflection, or detention	\$10,000,000
General Assembly legislative priorities	6,521,739
Voter approved initiatives	1,700,000
Total	\$18,221,739

The bill requires a General Fund appropriation for FY 2025-26 of \$478,187 (reengrossed bill) or \$638,260 (if J.004 is adopted), reducing the \$18.2 million set aside by the same amount.