



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

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### SB 25-027: TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOL SAFETY PRACTICES

**Prime Sponsors:**

Sen. Marchman  
Rep. Joseph

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**Fiscal note status:** The revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the Senate Education Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill creates a work group in the Department of Public Safety to develop recommendations for the use of trauma-informed practices in conducting school safety drills.

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

- State Revenue
- State Expenditures
- Local Government
- School Districts

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

**Table 1  
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue (Gifts, Grants, or Donations)	\$50,000	\$0
State Expenditures <sup>1</sup>	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

<sup>1</sup> Expenditures only occur if sufficient donations are received by the Department of Public Safety.

## Summary of Legislation

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The bill creates a work group in the Office of School Safety in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to develop best practices and recommendations for the use of trauma-informed practices to conduct school safety drills. Trauma-informed practices refer to a systematic approach that recognizes the prevalence of adverse and traumatic experiences of school safety drills, and equips school personnel with knowledge to recognize trauma and the strategies that support students and staff who experience trauma. The work group must convene by September 1, 2025, and meet at least four times in 2025 and at least three times in 2026. Its final report is due by June 30, 2026.

The work group includes representatives from the DPS, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA), the Department of Higher Education (DHE), and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), as well as school district superintendents, principals, teachers, mental health professionals, law enforcement, and other experts in child development—in total 11 voting members and 5 non-voting members. The work group must obtain input from parents and students who reflect the diversity of the state. Members serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses.

The bill creates the Trauma-Informed Practices for School Safety Drills Cash Fund to consist of gifts, grants, and donations, and other money the General Assembly appropriates or transfers to the fund. The DPS is authorized to seek and spend gifts, grants, and in-kind donations. The work group must be funded exclusively by gifts, grants, and private donations and no General Fund appropriations may be used. The workgroup is only implemented if the Department of Public Safety (DPS) receives the equivalent of \$50,000 in cash or in-kind donations.

## State Revenue

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The bill creates a new cash fund and authorizes the DPS to accept and spend gifts, grants, and donations credited to the fund, possibly increasing state revenue. Up to \$50,000 in private funding has been identified. State revenue from gifts, grants, and donations are not subject to TABOR.

## State Expenditures

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Conditional on the receipt of gifts, grants, and donations, the bill increases expenditures in the DPS by \$50,000 in FY 2025-26 only, paid from the Trauma-Informed Practices for School Safety Drills Cash Fund.

## Department of Public Safety

The department will accept in-kind consulting services to research and gather data to analyze school safety issues and the application of trauma-informed practices, convene and facilitate

meetings of the work group, and assist them in the development of recommendations and implementation plans for public schools.

In addition to the vendor contract, the DPS will have expenses to conduct the procurement process, and to provide reimbursement for travel expenses for any in-person work group meetings; however, these expenses do not require new appropriations.

### **Other State Agencies**

The bill also increases workload for the DPS, the CDE, the BHA, the DHE, and the CDPHE to participate in the work group. These agencies, as well as the legislature and the Governor's office, will be required to make appointments to the work group. This work can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

### **School Districts and Local Government**

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Public school staff members and local law enforcement who are appointed to the work group will attend the committee and subcommittee meetings and assist in developing the required recommendations. Time spent attending meetings may require staff coverage. Additional expenses to cover administrative staff absences may be incurred by the school district or local government employing the representative.

### **Effective Date**

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

### **State Appropriations**

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For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$50,000 from the Trauma-Informed Practices for School Safety Drills Cash Fund to the Department of Public Safety.

### **State and Local Government**

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Behavioral Health Administration  
Education  
Governor's Office

Higher Education  
Public Safety