



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-064: SAFE2TELL HANDLE WITH CARE NOTICE

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Marchman; Frizell
Rep. Clifford

Fiscal Analyst:

Josh Abram, 303-866-3561
josh.abram@coleg.gov

Bill Outcome: Deemed Lost

Drafting number: LLS 25-0473

Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: June 9, 2025

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the reengrossed version of the bill. The bill was deemed lost in the House Appropriations Committee on May 8, 2025; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires the Safe2Tell program to provide a handle-with-care notice to a school when a student has had a traumatic event at home.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas beginning in FY 2026-27:

- State Expenditures
- Local Government
- School Districts

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact ¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$78,130	\$87,688
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.9 FTE	1.0 FTE

¹ Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the table below.

**Table 1A
State Expenditures**

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
General Fund	\$0	\$62,232	\$70,024
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$0	\$15,898	\$17,664
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$78,130	\$87,688
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.9 FTE	1.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the [Safe2Tell](#) program in the Department of Law (DOL) and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to provide a handle-with-care notice to a school when an enrolled student has experienced a traumatic event that occurred at the child’s home. This requirement begins in FY 2026-27 for small rural school districts, FY 2027-28 for small or large rural school districts, and FY 2028-29 for students statewide. Traumatic events include situations such as domestic violence, serious accidents, or abuse and neglect.

Beginning August 1, 2026, a peace officer who responds to an incident involving a traumatic event may, subject to constitutional limitations, either report to the program the name and age of the child involved in the incident or provide information to the child's parent or guardian about how to inform the school through the Safe2Tell program. Once received, the program must send a handle-with-care notice to the child's school before the start of the next school day. The notice must only include the child’s name and the phrase “handle with care.”

A school that receives a handle-with-care notice shall only share the notice with appropriate school staff, and is not required to take any specific action with respect to the child or the notification.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures by about \$78,000 in FY 2026-27, and by about \$88,000 in FY 2027-28. New expenditures are in the DPS and the DOL as shown in Table 2 and Table 2A and described in the sections below. Costs are paid from the General Fund.

**Table 2
State Expenditures
All Departments**

Department	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
Department of Public Safety	\$0	\$74,451	\$75,312
Department of Law	\$0	\$3,679	\$12,376
Total Costs	\$0	\$78,130	\$87,688

Department of Public Safety

The Safe2Tell program’s call center resides in the Colorado Information Analysis Center (CAIC) in the DPS. Based on data collected from a pilot handle-with-care program in Douglas and Summit Counties, the CAIC is projected to initially receive approximately 3,360 system interactions annually requiring a handle-with-care notification. Once the program is fully implemented, data suggests that total handle-with-care notifications could increase to over 10,000 annually.

For each occurrence, an analyst must process the notification and document follow-up confirmation, and notice completion. In some cases, this includes research to identify the student’s district or school, especially if a student is enrolled in a private school. The CAIC will add 1.0 FTE Analyst II beginning in FY 2026-27 to process the additional call center workload. This expense is prorated for an August 1, 2026, start date, and includes standard operating and capital outlay.

**Table 2A
State Expenditures
Department of Public Safety**

Cost Component	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
Personal Services	\$0	\$50,731	\$56,368
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$1,152	\$1,280
Capital Outlay Costs	\$0	\$6,670	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$0	\$15,898	\$17,664
Total Costs	\$0	\$74,451	\$75,312
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.9 FTE	1.0 FTE

Department of Law

The DOL will have information technology costs beginning FY 2026-27 to purchase an annual subscription for a software plug-in that allows the Safe2Tell system to process handle-with-care notifications, as shown in Table 2. The software costs increases annually as the program is phased in. Software plug-in subscription costs increase by \$3,670 in FY 2025-26 for small rural districts, and \$12,376 in FY 2027-28 for small and large rural districts, and \$42,604 in FY 2028-29 for all school districts.

Local Governments and School Districts

Local law enforcement will have an increased effort when responding to incidents involving an adverse childhood experience and must report the name and age of the child involved to Safe2Tell. Once the notification is received by the state, local schools and school districts will get a notification that the enrolled student has experienced a traumatic childhood event, and can plan additional supports where necessary.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Law

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](#).