



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

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HB 26-1282: ELIMINATE DUPLICATIVE REG OF SCH CHILD CARE CTRS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Phillips; Goldstein
Sen. Mullica

Fiscal Analyst:

Anna Gerstle, 303-866-4375
anna.gerstle@coleg.gov

Published for: Senate Education**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0724**Version:** Second Revised Note**Date:** May 1, 2026**Fiscal note status:** This revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill specifies that certain rules adopted by the Colorado Department of Early Childhood do not apply to school district preschools and before- and after-school programs.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Minimal State Expenditures
- Local Government
- School Districts

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

School Preschool and Before/After-school Programs

Under the bill, a child care center that provides care exclusively to school-age children and is located on the property of a school district or charter school may satisfy any staff training or square footage requirements by providing the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) with evidence of compliance with similar Colorado Department of Education (CDE) rules. If CDE rules do not meet federal child care requirements, CDEC must require the center to meet minimum federal requirements.

Waivers and Appeals

Under current law, child care centers may request a waiver to use certain materials in its program and curriculum. The bill requires that CDEC annually review the waiver process and the appeal process.

Playground Equipment

Current law requires playground facilities to be inspected annually. The bill allows local public health agencies to conduct the inspections.

Background and Assumptions

The fiscal note assumes that school districts that receive federal funds to participate in the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) and Head Start program will continue to be eligible for federal funds under the bill, as the bill allows CDEC to require compliance in a way that ensures minimum federal requirements are met.

The fiscal note assumes that CDE is not required to change any rules or complete any analysis of whether department rules are substantially similar to CDEC rules.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload for CDEC to modify licensing requirements and processes to align with the bill and annually review the waiver and appeals processes. No change in appropriations is required.

Local Government and School Districts

The bill reduces workload for school districts with preschool and before- and after-school programs related to duplicative staff training or square footage regulations. The bill also minimally increases workload for any local public health agencies that choose to do playground inspections.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.

State and Local Government Contacts

Early Childhood	Law
Education	Public Health and Environment
Human Services	Public Safety