Attachment A

PROPOSAL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS TO JBC ON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

School finance:

- Increase average per-pupil funding by inflation, accounting for enrollment growth.
- If possible, make a small reduction to the negative factor.
- Continue to allocate categorical funding to the areas of greatest discrepancy between state and local funding.

What to fund through the State Education Fund (SEF):

- For FY 14, maintain the current level of General Fund (GF) appropriation for school finance and fund increases for growth and inflation through the SEF.
- Fund the CDE request for the development of new assessments (see CDE below).

DRAFT

Approve CDE requests:

Increase support for accountability –

- Improve data analysis and technical support
- Provide funding for State Review Panel

Augment assessments ($4.2 million total) –

- Augment PARCC assessments to meet Colorado content standards ($2 million)
- Develop new Spanish literacy assessments ($1.5 million)
- Administer Alternate Social Studies assessment ($0.4 million)
- Support increased ELL assessments ($0.3 million)

BEST and School Land Trust adjustments:

- Create a reserve for the BEST program.
- Continue the cap on the state share of COP payments at $40 million per year.
- Eliminate the "sweep" at the end of FY 2012-13, as under current law. Use the $11 million in interest earned on the Permanent Fund that had been going into school finance for BEST cash grants instead.
- Change funding for future cash grants from royalty and rental income to interest money.
- Put the new one-time bonus money into the PF.