

**STATE
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 13-0235
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Fields
 Sen. Giron

Date: February 4, 2013
Bill Status: House Health, Insurance, and Environment
Fiscal Analyst: Kirk Mlinek (303-866-2756)

TITLE: CONCERNING MODIFICATION OF THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT REGARDING HEALTH DISPARITIES TO INCLUDE HEALTH EQUITY, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, RENAMING THE OFFICE OF HEALTH DISPARITIES TO THE OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY AND CONSOLIDATING THE DUTIES OF THE MINORITY HEALTH ADVISORY COMMISSION AND THE INTERAGENCY HEALTH DISPARITIES LEADERSHIP COUNCIL INTO THE NEWLY CREATED HEALTH EQUITY COMMISSION.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	See State Expenditures section.	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: August 7, 2013, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 8, 2013, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: None required.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

Summary of Legislation

The bill renames the Office of Health Disparities in the Department of Public Health and Environment (DPHE) to the Office of Health Equity (office), adds duties to the office, replaces the Minority Health Advisory Commission with the Health Equity Commission, adds two members to the current 13-member commission, and requires that a review committee make recommendations on applications required by the Health Disparities Grant Program. Duties of the Office of Health Equity include:

- promoting health equity in Colorado by implementing strategies tailored to address the causes of health disparities;
- leading and coordinating DPHE's health equity efforts;
- offering technical assistance to other state and local agencies
- coordinating and staffing the Health Equity Commission;
- building collaborative partnerships with communities to identify and promote health equity strategies; and
- developing communications strategies regarding health equity.

The bill repeals the Interagency Health Disparities Leadership Council. The Health Equity Commission is scheduled for sunset review by September 1, 2023.

State Expenditures

The bill increases the DPHE workload by broadening the scope of potential grants from the Health Disparities Grant Program and by requiring an additional step in the review of grant applications. Although the total funding for grants does not increase, the number of grant application may increase; however, because there is some overlap in eligible organizations the increase is not expected to be significant. The bill codifies the commission's current informal practice of having a subcommittee first review and then make grant recommendations to the full commission. The fiscal note assumes that the increase in workload to process applications and to staff the application review subcommittee will be absorbed within existing appropriations. In FY 2012-13, the program provides about \$3.3 million in grants.

The bill adds the executive directors of the Department of Human Services and Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to the newly constructed Health Equity Commission. While such membership adds to the duties of each executive director, it does not require new appropriations to the affected state agencies.

Departments Contacted

Human Services
Human Services
Personnel
Municipalities

Public Health and Environment
Education
Health Care Policy and Financing

Corrections
Higher Education
Counties