



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**Bill 2**

**FISCAL NOTE**

**FISCAL IMPACT:**  State  Local  Statutory Public Entity  Conditional  No Fiscal Impact

**Drafting Number:** LLS 18-0318  
**Prime Sponsor(s):**

**Date:** October 30, 2017  
**Bill Status:** Early Childhood and School  
Readiness Legislative Commission  
Bill Request

**Fiscal Analyst:** Aaron Carpenter (303-866-4918)

**BILL TOPIC:** ALIGN EARLY CHILDHOOD QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2018-2019</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>	Minimal workload increase.	
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Appropriation Required:</b> None.		
<b>Future Year Impacts:</b> Ongoing minimal workload increase.		

**Summary of Legislation**

The bill, ***requested by the Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission***, renames the School-Readiness Quality Improvement Program to the Colorado Shines Quality Rating and Improvement System (Colorado Shines). It updates application requirements for early childhood councils applying for quality improvement funding, and the Infant and Toddler Quality and Availability Grant Program. The bill also eliminates obsolete language and aligns statutory provisions concerning grant programs and early childhood councils.

**Background**

Colorado Shines, also known as the School-Readiness Quality Rating and Improvement System, gives grant money and funds to early childhood councils to support programs to get children under the age of five ready for school. It is housed in the Colorado Department of Human Services (DHS). Early childhood councils are established locally and charged with developing and implementing childhood readiness programs. Early childhood councils are awarded funding through the Colorado Shines Quality Improvement Fund, which is funded through the federal Childcare Development Fund. Colorado Shines also awards grants through the Colorado Infant and Toddler Quality and Availability Grant Program to improve quality in infant and toddler care, especially children living in poverty. Colorado Shines is also charged with measuring the quality of services provided by an early childhood education program.

**State Expenditures**

The bill increases workload in the DHS and the Office of Information Technology (OIT) by a minimal amount. The bill updates the measures used by Colorado Shines to track the level of preparedness and quality of services of early childhood councils, and updates the application procedures for grant funding. OIT must update online systems. These changes will have only a minimal increase of workload for the affected departments and can be accomplished with existing appropriations.

**Local Government Impact**

Local governments participating in early childhood councils are required to increase the frequency of reporting to the DHS from once every three years to annually. The bill also changes grant application requirements. The workload impact to local governments will be minimal.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 8, 2018, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2018, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties  
Information Technology

Education  
School Districts

Human Services