

**TOPIC: APPROVAL OF LETTER TO INSTITUTIONS REGARDING THE
50% PLAN**

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I. SUMMARY

The higher education flexibility legislation, SB10-003, requires institutions of higher education to submit a report to the CCHE and the Joint Budget Committee by November 10, 2010, indicating what their plans would be if state funding for higher education was decreased by 50% in FY11-12. This action item would help facilitate the institutions in responding to the 50% report.

II. STAFF ANALYSIS

SB10-003 does not specify how the hypothetical 50% cuts would be made across the system nor does it provide specific details on the elements of the reports. As a result, this could lead to reports from institutions that vary widely and may conflict with one another, which ultimately would not lead to information that is beneficial to institutions, the legislature, or the public.

The Commission could decide to coordinate the responses for this report on behalf of the institutions to ensure consistency and usefulness. This action item is a letter to the president's of the institutions indicating that the Commission intends to take this coordinated approach.

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the approval of this letter to the institutions regarding the 50% plans.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. 23-1-104(4)(a)