

TOPIC: HB 14-1319 PROJECT UPDATE

PREPARED BY: KACHINA M. WEAVER, PROJECT MANAGER

I. SUMMARY

HB 14-1319 requires the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to analyze how Colorado higher education dollars are spent and determine and implement a funding formula that is more transparent and understandable and will increase outcomes for Colorado residents.

The Department has brought on a Project Manager, Kachina M. Weaver, to coordinate and manage the overall project; work with senior staff and CCHE to meet the directives of the legislation; and, solicit and manage vendors brought in for the various aspects of the project.

There are three distinct segments of the Project: (1) facilitate discussion among CCHE, key constituencies, interested parties, and the public about higher education funding and establishing funding principles; (2) conduct a cost-driver analysis to better understand recent increases in tuition and how higher education dollars are spent; and (3) create a new funding model that places priority on higher graduation rates. To achieve these directives, the Department will be retaining up to three consultants. The requests for proposals (RFP's) are being processed and we expect to have the vendors on board beginning in mid-July.

The timeline for completion of this project is short (December 2014), and therefore the schedule will be rigorous. We expect to launch the project with the assistance of a facilitator at the CCHE retreat in July. We are currently in the solicitation process with the Department of Personnel and Administration for this facilitator. In short order we will begin developing a steering committee for the overall Project, as well as stakeholder teams for the individual segments. It is DHE's intent to have diverse representation on these teams to ensure a breadth of expertise and that a multitude of interests are represented and are participating in the overall discussion and decision making.

A rough timeline of things to come is as follows:

- CCHE Retreat and Project Kickoff – *July 24-25*
- Comprehensive Outreach Process with interested parties across the state – *August and September*
- Cost Driver Analysis data collection – *August and September*
- Formula Modeling – *September through November*
- Final Model and Legislative Recommendations – *early December*
- Presentations to SMART Act Hearings and JBC – *mid December*

II. BACKGROUND

HB 14-1319 requires the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to analyze how Colorado higher education dollars are spent and determine and implement a funding formula

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

N/A

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

This item/report is a discussion/information item only; no formal action is required by the Commission.

V. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

HB 14-1319 “Concerning the Creation of an Outcomes-Based Funding Model for Higher Education, and, in Connection Therewith, Making and Reducing Appropriations”

ATTACHMENT:

N/A