

**FINAL  
FISCAL NOTE**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 12-0415  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Lee; Hullinghorst

**Date:** July 2, 2012  
**Bill Status:** Postponed Indefinitely  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Jonathan Senft (303-866-3523)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE ECONOMIC GARDENING PILOT PROGRAM IN THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2012-2013</b>	<b>FY 2013-2014</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
Cash Funds		
Economic Gardening Pilot Program Cash Fund	\$221,366*	\$218,014*
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
Cash Funds		
Economic Gardening Pilot Program Cash Fund	\$221,366*	\$218,014*
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	0.5 FTE	0.5 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> The bill was postponed indefinitely by the House Economic and Business Development Committee on February 24, 2012.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013:</b> See State Appropriations section.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

\* Revenue and expenditures from the Cash Fund are conditional upon the receipt of gifts, grants, and donations.

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill creates an economic gardening pilot program within the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). This program provides strategic technical assistance to stage-two emerging companies using advanced software and science concepts. The pilot program ends on September 1, 2020. Under this bill, OEDIT will select no more than seven experienced contractors to create partnerships. The supervisor of each partnership will select regional companies to participate in the pilot program. Each of the regions will have an equal number of company participants, with a maximum of seven.

Under this bill, each company selected will receive:

- free or low-cost assistance with marketing, accounting and legal services;
- free or low-cost market research; and
- assistance with peer networking.

On or before February 1, 2013, and each year thereafter through the life of the program, OEDIT will report to the legislature describing the pilot program's status.

**State Revenue**

Approximately \$220,000 in gifts, grants, and donations will be needed each year to cover staffing and support costs under the bill, based on assumptions detailed in the State Expenditures section regarding an appropriate level of effort to support this bill. As directed by the bill, gifts, grants and donations will be credited to the Economic Gardening Pilot Program Cash Fund. Upon receipt, moneys in this fund are subject to annual appropriation. At this time, no specific gifts, grants, or donations have been identified.

**State Expenditures**

**This bill is anticipated to increase expenditures by \$221,366 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2012-13, cash funds, and \$218,014 and 0.5 FTE, cash funds, each year thereafter, until 2020.**

*OEDIT.* Under this bill, the office will select supervising contractors, who will provide the business support to Colorado companies. It is estimated that 49 business will participate at any given time, working under seven contractors. The office will develop RFPs for the contractors, review and select contract bids, administer the cash fund created by the bill, create performance measuring tools, and draft and present the report on program status each year. These duties are expected to cost \$25,366 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2102-13, and \$23,014 and 0.5 FTE in out years.

In addition, it is estimated that each business under this program will require funding amounting to \$4,000 per business, to cover the support services mentioned in the summary of this fiscal note. Since there will be 49 business in the program at any given time, these services are estimated at \$196,000 per year.

It should be noted this estimate assumes that there will be sufficient gifts, grants and donations each year for the lifetime of the program. This analysis assumes that the program will be suspended in any year there is insufficient funding.

**Expenditures Not Included**

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are summarized in Table 1.

<b>Table 1. Expenditures Not Included Under 12-1133*</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2012-13</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$3,550	\$3,550
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	1,202	1,202
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,752</b>	<b>\$4,752</b>

\*More information is available at: <http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes>

**State Appropriations**

Assuming a sufficient amount of gift, grants and donations is obtained, for FY 2012-13, this bill requires an appropriation of \$221,366 and 0.5 FTE from the Economic Gardening Pilot Program Cash Fund to the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade.

**Departments Contacted**

Governor's Office