



## **Colorado ASSET: Advancing Students for a Stronger Economy Tomorrow**

### ***Who will pay for this policy? Will my taxes go up?***

The students who go on to attend college pay for Colorado ASSET. When a similar bill was introduced in 2009 a non-partisan fiscal analysis conducted in the legislature determined that “This bill will increase state tuition revenue based on the assumption that more students will attend state institutions of higher education than would without SB09-170.” The following chart demonstrates the fiscal benefit to the higher education system based on that fiscal analysis:

Students	New Tuition Revenue to Community Colleges	New Tuition Revenue to 4 Year Universities
50	\$97,200	\$233,400
200	\$388,800	\$933,600
350	\$680,400	\$1,633,800
500	\$972,000	\$2,334,000
<i>Source: Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note: LLS 09-0331, May 26, 2009.</i>		

Additionally, all individuals who live in Colorado and own or rent a house, buy groceries, clothing or fuel pay taxes that are used to fund higher education – this includes undocumented consumers of those goods. Colorado taxes will not go up as a result of this policy.

### ***How many students will benefit from Colorado ASSET?***

Because we do not ask our K-12 students about their status we do not know how many students would benefit. The above fiscal analysis estimated that: “Approximately 900 non citizen students will be eligible for resident tuition as a result of this bill; however, not all of these students will attend an institution of higher education. This fiscal note assumes that a minimum of 50 students will take advantage of the new benefit.”

### ***Will this policy encourage more undocumented students to move to Colorado?***

States that have enacted similar policies up to nine years ago have seen no dramatic increase in the number of undocumented immigrants. Texas even offers their undocumented students financial aid to attend college at in-state rates without fear of attracting more immigrants to their state.

### ***Does Colorado ASSET help only undocumented students?***

Teachers and counselors will benefit because this policy is a tool to help them keep students engaged and college bound. Citizen students who know friends or family affected by this issue often become civically involved in their communities through work on this policy. Additionally, all classrooms – high school and college alike—benefit from a diverse student body.