



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **SB0526.01: Establish the community health aide provider education grant program**

Primary Sponsor: Jonathan Windy Boy Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☒ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact

☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☐ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

### FISCAL SUMMARY

|                             | <u>FY 2026<br/>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2027<br/>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2028<br/>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2029<br/>Difference</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Expenditures</b>         |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| General Fund (01)           | \$7,128,228                   | \$3,612,660                   | \$3,614,461                   | \$3,616,285                   |
| <b>Revenues</b>             |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| General Fund (01)           | \$1,500,000                   | \$0                           | \$0                           | \$0                           |
| <b>Net Impact</b>           | <u>(\$5,628,228)</u>          | <u>(\$3,612,660)</u>          | <u>(\$3,614,461)</u>          | <u>(\$3,616,285)</u>          |
| <b>General Fund Balance</b> |                               |                               |                               |                               |

### Description of fiscal impact

SB 526 establishes a community health aide provider education grant program administered by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE). The purpose of the grant program is to develop, implement, and maintain education programs for community health aide or dental health aide providers. This bill has fiscal impact on the OCHE for the implementation and ongoing maintenance of the grant program.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### Assumptions

#### Commissioner of Higher Education

- SB 526 would require the need for an additional 1.00 FTE to support the operation and extensive data reporting of the grant program.
  - The awarding, monitoring, and outcomes reporting are extensive and could not be absorbed by any existing position at OCHE.
  - Operating expenses are anticipated for the development of an additional module in OCHE's existing grant awarding software along with outreach to the partnering Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU).
- SB 526 allows for one-time grant amounts of up to \$1.0 million be awarded to each TCU for startup costs. OCHE anticipates all seven TCU's would receive this grant for a total of \$7.0 million in FY 2026.
- Grant recipients can receive funding of \$500,000 each year for ongoing maintenance, data collection, and reporting. OCHE assumes all seven TCU's would receive this ongoing funding, for a total of \$3.5 million in FY 2027, FY 2028 and FY 2029.
- SB 526 only allocates \$1.5 million but up to \$4.0 million can be awarded to each partnering TCU. Funding would have to be prorated in this event.
- It is unclear if the abundance of complex data is readily available for the TCU's to report as outlined in the proposed legislation.

**Secretary of State's Office**

6. SB 526 requires the Office of the Secretary of State to notify each federally recognized tribal government in Montana. While there may be a minimal fiscal impact, the Office of the Secretary of State will absorb the costs associated with implementing this bill within its existing operating budget.

**Fiscal Analysis Table****Commissioner of Higher Education**

|  | <b><u>FY 2026<br/>Difference</u></b> | <b><u>FY 2027<br/>Difference</u></b> | <b><u>FY 2028<br/>Difference</u></b> | <b><u>FY 2029<br/>Difference</u></b> |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Fiscal Impact</u></b>  |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| FTE  | 1.00                                 | 1.00                                 | 1.00                                 | 1.00                                 |
| <b>TOTAL Fiscal Impact</b>   | <b>1.00</b>                          | <b>1.00</b>                          | <b>1.00</b>                          | <b>1.00</b>                          |
| <b><u>Expenditures</u></b>   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Personal Services  | \$100,228                            | \$102,660                            | \$104,461                            | \$106,285                            |
| Operating Expenses   | \$28,000                             | \$10,000                             | \$10,000                             | \$10,000                             |
| Grants   | \$7,000,000                          | \$3,500,000                          | \$3,500,000                          | \$3,500,000                          |
| <b>TOTAL Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$7,128,228</b>                   | <b>\$3,612,660</b>                   | <b>\$3,614,461</b>                   | <b>\$3,616,285</b>                   |
| <b><u>Funding of Expenditures</u></b>  |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| General Fund (01)  | \$7,128,228                          | \$3,612,660                          | \$3,614,461                          | \$3,616,285                          |
| <b>TOTAL Funding of Expenditures</b>   | <b>\$7,128,228</b>                   | <b>\$3,612,660</b>                   | <b>\$3,614,461</b>                   | <b>\$3,616,285</b>                   |
| <b><u>Revenues</u></b>   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| General Fund (01)  | \$1,500,000                          | \$0                                  | \$0                                  | \$0                                  |
| <b>TOTAL Revenues</b>  | <b>\$1,500,000</b>                   | <b>\$0</b>                           | <b>\$0</b>                           | <b>\$0</b>                           |
| <b><u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u></b> |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| General Fund (01)  | (\$5,628,228)                        | (\$3,612,660)                        | (\$3,614,461)                        | (\$3,616,285)                        |

**Technical Concerns****Commissioner of Higher Education**

1. OCHE has been utilized as the administrative pass-through agency for distributing state funds to Tribal Colleges, with no governance authority over their operations.

NO SPONSOR SIGNATURE

3/14

Sponsor's Initials

Date



Budget Director's Initials

3/7/2025

Date