



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**HB16-1057**

**FINAL  
FISCAL NOTE**

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**  State  Local  Statutory Public Entity  Conditional  No Fiscal Impact

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**Drafting Number:** LLS 16-0452  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Ransom  
Sen. Merrifield

**Date:** July 11, 2016  
**Bill Status:** Signed into Law  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Amanda Hayden (303-866-4918)

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**BILL TOPIC:** SEVEN DAY COURT TIME INTERVALS IN CHILDREN'S CODE

### **Summary of Legislation**

The bill modifies time intervals based on a "rule of seven" for judicial proceedings under the Children's Code. The bill changes the deadline to file a request for a hearing before a judge from five to seven days in proceedings related to dependency and neglect. In addition, a request for review of hearings related to dependency and neglect proceedings must be filed within 7 instead of 5 days and within 14 instead of 15 days for matters relating to the juvenile justice system, the uniform parentage act, and child support proceedings.

### **Background**

In December 2011, the Colorado Supreme Court adopted Rule Change 2011(18) and Rule Change 2011(19). These rule changes modify the computation of time intervals between events in the legal process, with subsequent events to occur on the same day of the week as the initiating act. This "rule of seven" avoids filing deadlines and other crucial dates that were previously calculated to fall on weekends. Most affected court rules correspond with statutes previously modified in a conforming manner by Senate Bill 12-175, House Bill 13-1126, and House Bill 14-1347. This bill corrects time intervals that were not included in those bills.

### **Assessment**

This bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. The bill has no effect on the workload of the Judicial Department or the Department of Human Services. The rule of seven has generally been observed in Colorado courts since 2012, when the 2011 Supreme Court rule changes and SB 12-175 took effect. The bill does not affect caseload or the effort required to handle current cases, and it codifies current practice.

### **Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on March 18, 2016.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties  
Information Technology

Municipalities  
Judicial

Human Services