



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**HB17-1017**

**FINAL  
FISCAL NOTE**

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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 17-0622 **Date:** August 29, 2017  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Kennedy **Bill Status:** Signed into Law  
 Sen. Baumgardner; Jahn **Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Creighton (303-866-5834)

**BILL TOPIC:** COUNTY SURVEYOR DUTIES

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2017-2018</b>	<b>FY 2018-2019</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>	Minimal workload increase.	
<b>Appropriation Required:</b> None.		
<b>Future Year Impacts:</b> Ongoing minimal workload increase.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill clarifies the duties of a county surveyor, authorizes compensation of services through an agreement between the surveyor and the board of county commissioners, and allows counties to have some surveying services contracted out to qualified private professionals or provided by a county department that employs licensed surveyors. This bill also increases the time for counties to fill a surveyor vacancy from 90 days to 6 months, and modifies the procedure for boundary line disputes.

**Background**

The county surveyor represents the county in boundary disputes; files all surveys, field notes, calculations, and maps; establishes corner monuments in cases of disputes; and creates and maintains a land survey record file and index system. Salaries for county surveyors are set in statute and currently range from \$1,000 per year for surveyors in the smallest counties, to up to \$5,500 per year for surveyors in the largest counties. Under current law, the board of county commissioners may provide additional compensation to a county surveyor for services performed outside of the statutorily defined duties. This bill authorizes such compensation through an agreement between the surveyor and the board of county commissioners.

**State Expenditures**

This bill minimally increases workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies. Under this bill, if petitioned by the county commissioners in a boundary dispute, the state engineer must define the boundary and file a survey monument record. The state engineer currently resolves

boundary disputes; however, the requirement to file a survey monument record will increase the number of records filed in the Colorado State Land Survey Monument Records database. This increases workload for the State Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors to receive and file the records. This increase in workload is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

**Local Government Impact**

This bill may impact county costs and workload in several ways. First, county workload increases to create financial compensation agreements between the county surveyor and county commission. Second, costs may be decreased in counties that utilize other county departments to perform work for which the surveyor was previously compensated for. Third, for counties that choose to contract work out, costs and workload are increased to enter into contractual agreements and pay for the work. Any impacts will vary by county and are not expected to be significant.

**Effective Date**

This bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 8, 2017, and became effective on August 9, 2017.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties  
Natural Resources

Information Technology  
Regulatory Agencies

Local Affairs