



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB17-042

FISCAL NOTE

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

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0324 **Date:** January 23, 2017
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Guzman; Donovan **Bill Status:** Senate Business, Labor, & Technology
Fiscal Analyst: Chris Creighton (303-866-5834)

BILL TOPIC: REPEAL LOCAL GOV INTERNET SERVICE VOTER APPROVAL

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload decrease.	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing minimal workload impact.		

Summary of Legislation

Under current law local governments are prohibited from providing cable television, telecommunication services, or high speed internet generally, without first receiving voter approval. Local governments that do provide these services must comply with all state and federal laws, rules, and regulations governing the service by a private provider and may not grant preferences or discriminate in the provision of the service. This bill repeals these restrictions and allows local governments to provide cable television, telecommunication services, or high speed internet without having to obtain voter approval.

Background

Voters in 28 of the state's 64 counties have passed ballot measures to repeal these restrictions. Many municipalities have also passed similar ballot measures including six from the 2016 general election and 65 in total. All local government ballot measures to repeal the restrictions on cable television, telecommunication services, or high speed internet have been done through the regular election process.

State Expenditures

This bill decreases workload in the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) by a minimal amount. Municipalities and special districts are required to file election results with the Division of Local Government in DOLA. Eliminating the voter approval requirement for cable television, telecommunication services, or high speed internet decreases department workload to provide technical assistance to municipalities and special districts that hold such an election. This workload decrease is minimal and will not require a decrease in appropriations.

Local Government Impact

This bill decreases costs for the local governments that were planning to seek voter approval to allow for the provision of cable television, telecommunication services, or high speed internet. Cost savings for these local governments will vary depending on the size of the local government, type of election, and number of initiatives appearing on the ballot, but are estimated to be between \$0.60 to \$0.75 per voter for a regular election. For local governments that decide to provide cable television, telecommunication services, or high speed internet costs will increase to finance the infrastructure or enter into agreements with service providers.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 9, 2017, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 10, 2017, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Clerks
Local Affairs
Special Districts

Counties
Municipalities

Information Technology
Regulatory Agencies