



## Legislative Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

# FISCAL NOTE

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<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 18-1020	<b>Date:</b>	March 13, 2018
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Sen. Sonnenberg Rep. Arndt; Becker J.	<b>Bill Status:</b>	Senate Agriculture
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**Bill Topic:** AG MARKETING ACT NOTICES & INCLUSION OF MILLET

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**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill adds millet to the definition of an agricultural commodity and modernizes the public announcement of actions on market orders. It creates a potential, ongoing state workload increase.

**Appropriation Summary:** No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note Status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

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### Summary of Legislation

This bill amends the Colorado Agricultural Marketing Act of 1939 to add millet to the definition of agricultural commodity and allows the Commissioner of Agriculture to determine how the public announcement of the issuance, suspension, amendment, or termination of a marketing order will be made. Current announcements must be posted on a public bulletin board and published in the newspaper. By defining millet as an agricultural commodity, millet producers will be able to seek a referendum to establish a millet market order.

### Background

A market order allows producers of a specific commodity to work together to research, develop, and market their product to consumers in a way they could not do individually. A market order is overseen by an administrative committee elected by producers and approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture. The activities of the market order are funded by assessments paid by producers. Colorado currently has market orders for corn, dry beans, milk, potatoes, sunflowers, sweet corn, and wheat. Millet is a gluten-free grain that is high in protein. Colorado produces over half the millet grown in the United States.

**State Expenditures**

Although the bill does not create a millet market order, the fiscal note assumes that millet producers will request a referendum to create the order and will choose to establish the order sometime in the next two fiscal years. This will result in increased workload for the Department of Agriculture to oversee the activities of the millet market order. The department will use legal services hours from the Department of Law to develop and administer the new market order. These activities can be accomplished with existing department appropriations.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 8, 2018, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2018, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Agriculture

Information Technology

Law