



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 21-0805	Date:	April 23, 2021
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Lundeen Rep. Geitner; Pico	Bill Status:	Senate SVMA
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Bill Topic: LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNOR EMERGENCY POWERS

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 concurrent resolution refers a measure to voters to amend the Colorado Constitution to limit a state of disaster emergency declared by the Governor to 30 consecutive calendar days.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

This concurrent resolution refers a measure to voters at the November 2022 general election to amend the Colorado Constitution to limit a state of disaster emergency declared by the Governor to 30 consecutive calendar days. Within the 30 days after the Governor's disaster declaration, the General Assembly may extend the state of disaster emergency for a specified period of time by adopting a joint resolution approved by at least two-thirds of the members of each house. If the General Assembly is not in session, the Governor may convene a special legislative session to address extending the disaster emergency. The General Assembly may adopt subsequent joint resolutions to further extend the state of disaster emergency. The Governor is authorized to terminate the state of disaster emergency at any time.

The measure requires at least 55 percent of the voters voting affirmatively for the amendment to become part of the Colorado Constitution.

Background

Under current law, the Governor is authorized to declare a disaster emergency by executive order or proclamation if he finds a disaster has occurred or that a threat of a disaster is imminent. The disaster emergency is limited to 30 days, but can be renewed by the Governor. The General Assembly may terminate a state of disaster emergency at any time by joint resolution, after which the Governor must issue an executive order or proclamation ending the state of disaster emergency.

State Expenditures

If the measure is approved by voters and if the Governor convenes a special session to extend a state of disaster emergency, state General Fund expenditures will increase. Funds for special sessions are included annually in legislative appropriations. The concurrent resolution will impact election costs, as described below.

Election expenditure impact — existing appropriations. This bill includes a referred measure that will appear before voters at the November 2022 general election. While no additional appropriation is required, certain election costs are incurred by the state when ballot measures are referred. These include reimbursing counties for certain election costs; publishing the text and title of the measure in newspapers across the state; and preparing and mailing the Blue Book.

Effective Date

The measure takes effect after the date of the official declaration of the vote by proclamation of the Governor, not later than 30 days after the votes have been canvassed.

State and Local Government Contacts

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State