



HB 22-1148

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Revised Fiscal Note

(replaces fiscal note dated February 23, 2022)

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0612 **Date:** April 5, 2022
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Catlin; Roberts **Bill Status:** House Appropriations
 Sen. Coram; Ginal **Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram | 303-866-3561
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Bill Topic: WILDFIRE CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires that the Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting in the Department of Public Safety create one or more remote camera technology pilot programs to detect wildfires. It increases state expenditures from FY 2022-23 through FY 2025-26.

Appropriation Summary: The bill requires a reappropriation of \$12,500 to the Department of Personnel and Administration. Other costs are paid from a cash fund continuously appropriated to the Department of Public Safety.

Fiscal Note Status: The revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the House Agriculture, Livestock, and Water Committee.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 22-1148**

		Budget Year FY 2022-23	Out Year FY 2023-24
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	Cash Funds	\$2,000,000	at least \$74,921
	Centrally Appropriated	\$20,326	at least \$20,326
	Total Expenditures	\$2,020,326	at least \$95,247
	Total FTE	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE
Transfers	General Fund	(\$2,000,000)	-
	Cash Funds	\$2,000,000	-
	Net Transfer	\$0	-
Other Budget Impacts		-	-

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires that the Center for Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting in the Department of Public Safety implement one or more pilot programs using remote camera technology to detect, identify, or confirm the existence of wildfires. It specifies parameters for the pilot program, and further directs agencies of state and local governments to provide information, assistance, and site access as necessary for the program's implementation.

The Center of Excellence must implement the pilot program by April 2023, and annually report on the program(s) to the Wildfire Matters Review Committee beginning in August 2023. The pilot program repeals on September 1, 2026 following a sunset review by the Department of Regulatory Agencies.

State Transfer

On July 1, 2022, the State Treasurer must transfer \$2.0 million from the General Fund to the Colorado Firefighting Air Corps Fund.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the Department of Public Safety by about \$2.0 million in FY 2022-23, and by at least \$95,247 per year in FY 2023-24 through FY 2025-26. Expenditures are from the Colorado Firefighting Air Corps Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the DPS. Expenditures are shown in Table 2 and detailed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under HB 22-1148

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Department of Natural Resources		
Personal Services	\$73,571	\$73,571
Operating Expenses	\$1,350	\$1,350
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,200	-
Pilot Program Operations ¹	\$1,918,879	-
Centrally Appropriated Costs ²	\$20,326	\$20,326
FTE – Personal Services	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE
Total Cost	\$2,020,326	\$95,247
Total FTE	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE

¹ It is assumed that this funding will cover costs in future years, but additional costs may be incurred.

² Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Staffing costs. The department requires 1.0 FTE project manager to facilitate the pilot program(s), including procuring remote camera technology, administering the program's requirements, reporting to the legislature, and monitoring vendor contracts. Standard operating and capital outlay costs are included. These costs will extend for the life of the pilot program, through FY 2025-26.

Pilot program operations. After accounting for staffing costs, about \$1.9 million will remain available from the bill's appropriation to create and operate the pilot program, including a leased vehicle, hardware purchases, executing contracts for remote camera technology, monitoring and evaluating data, and reporting. While the fiscal note shows these costs in FY 2022-23, based on the required transfer in FY 2022-23, the costs may cover contracts and services provided in future years. Should costs be incurred above this amount, additional appropriations may be required in future years and will be requested through the annual budget process.

Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). In FY 2024-25, DORA will conduct the pilot program's sunset review. This work will be incorporated into the regular schedule of sunset reviews and funded through the annual budget process.

Department of Personnel and Administration (DPA). The DPA provides a vehicle lease to client agencies, estimated at \$12,500 for DPS program staff travel in FY 2022-23.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in Table 2.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

Money in the Colorado Firefighting Air Corps Fund is continuously appropriated to the DPS, so no additional appropriation is required. For FY 2022-23, the DPS requires 1.0 FTE, and the DPA requires \$12,500 in reappropriated funds for fleet vehicle services.

State and Local Government Contacts

Natural Resources

Public Safety

Regulatory Agencies