



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 25-1251: PARENTAL CONSENT TO TREATMENT OF A MINOR

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Bottoms

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**Date:** March 3, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

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### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill prohibits anyone from soliciting, arranging, or performing any medical or mental health service to a minor without consent from a parent or legal guardian.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- State Expenditures
- Local Government
- School Districts

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

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**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

<b>Type of Impact</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

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The bill prohibits anyone from soliciting, arranging, or performing any medical or mental health service on a minor without consent from a parent or legal guardian unless it is a medical emergency, the minor is in custody of a department of human or social services, or treatment is directed by court order.

The bill makes conforming amendments to statutes that currently allow for minor consent to treatment including treatment for substance use, select mental health care, contraception, sexually transmitted infection treatment, and prenatal care. The bill also repeals certain legal protections and rights related to hospitalization, and involuntary feeding and related judicial review processes for minors.

## State Expenditures

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The bill increases workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) and the Judicial Department related to enforcement of its requirements. The bill also increases workload in government agencies that operate or oversee programs that provide medical or mental health services to minors.

### Department of Regulatory Agencies

The bill will increase workload for the State Medical Board and other mental health professional boards in DORA to update materials, conduct outreach, and to promulgate rules; no change in appropriations is required. Workload may also increase to the extent that complaints against regulated professionals increase. The fiscal note assumes that regulated professionals will comply with parental consent laws.

### Judicial Department

The Judicial Department may see additional civil cases if any individuals or entities do not comply with the bill. Since DORA regulates most affected medical providers, the fiscal note assumes trial court workload will be minimal. Additionally, workload may minimally decrease from removing the requirement for judicial review related to involuntary feeding tubes. No change in appropriations is required.

### Government Health Care Programs

Workload in agencies that operate or oversee programs that provide medical or mental health services to minors including the Department of Education, the Department of Early Childhood, the Department of Public Health and Environment, and the Behavioral Health Administration. These agencies will develop policies for obtaining parental consent when required. The Department of Law will provide legal counsel for this process as required. This workload can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

## Local Government and School Districts

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Similar to the state impacts above, the measure potentially increases expenditures for local governments, particularly school districts, to adjust policies and program operations in accordance with the bill.

## Effective Date

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The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

## Departmental Difference

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DORA estimates that the bill requires \$228,088 and 2.3 FTE in FY 2025-26 and \$195,494 and 2.1 FTE in future years. This estimate assumes that complaints against regulated professionals may increase by up to 10 percent. If DORA's assumptions are correct, the Department of Personnel and Administration and the Department of Law may also be impacted. The fiscal note assumes that most regulated professionals will comply with the law and any increase in costs related to noncompliance with the bill will be accounted for through the annual budget process.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Behavioral Health Administration	Judicial
Child Welfare	Personnel
Education	Public Health and Environment
Health Care Policy and Financing	Regulatory Agencies
Human Services	

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The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).