



**Legislative  
Council Staff**

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

**FISCAL NOTE**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 19-0220  
**Prime Sponsors:**

**Date:** September 28, 2018  
**Bill Status:** Wildfire Matters Review  
Committee Interim Bill Request  
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**Bill Topic:** ESTABLISH COLORADO FIRE COMMISSION

**Summary of  
Fiscal Impact:**

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

This bill creates the Colorado Fire Commission. It increases state expenditures and local government workload beginning in FY 2019-20 and continuing until the commission is repealed September 1, 2024.

**Appropriation  
Summary:**

For FY 2019-20, this bill requires an appropriation of \$142,628 to the Department of Public Safety.

**Fiscal Note  
Status:**

This fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Wildfire Matters Review Committee.

**Table 1  
State Fiscal Impacts Under Bill 3**

		FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
<b>Revenue</b>		-	-
<b>Expenditures</b>	General Fund	\$142,628	\$194,562
	Centrally Appropriated	\$13,159	\$16,184
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$155,787</b>	<b>\$210,746</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>		<b>0.8 FTE</b>	<b>1.0 FTE</b>
<b>Transfers</b>		-	-
<b>TABOR Refund</b>		-	-

## Summary of Legislation

This bill creates the Colorado Fire Commission (commission) in the Department of Public Safety (DPS), Division of Fire Prevention and Control.

The commission is required to meet at least once every three months to enhance public safety and safeguard individuals, natural resources, property, and local and regional communities, through fire mitigation, prevention, preparedness, and response strategies. The commission consists of 18 voting members and at least 3 non-voting members from federal, state, and local entities who serve on a volunteer basis, but are entitled to be reimbursed for commission related expenses. Commission duties are specified in the bill and the commission may establish task forces to study and make recommendations to the full commission.

The commission must report on its activities and recommendations to the General Assembly by August 31, 2020, and each year thereafter until the commission repeals September 1, 2024. A sunset review must be conducted by the Department of Regulatory Agencies prior to this repeal date.

## State Expenditures

This bill increases state expenditures by \$155,787 and 0.8 FTE in FY 2019-20 and \$210,746 and 1.0 FTE in FY 2020-21 and beyond until the commission repeals. These impacts are shown in Table 2 and discussed below.

**Table 2**  
**Expenditures Under Bill 3**

	<b>FY 2019-20</b>	<b>FY 2020-21</b>
<b>Department of Public Safety</b>		
Personal Services	\$58,364	\$70,036
Operating Expenses and Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,098	\$1,550
Meeting and Travel Expenses	\$55,666	\$95,976
Consultant Services	\$22,500	\$27,000
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$13,159	\$16,184
FTE – Personal Services	0.8 FTE	1.0 FTE
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$155,787</b>	<b>\$210,746</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.8 FTE</b>	<b>1.0 FTE</b>

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

**Department of Public Safety.** The DPS requires 1.0 FTE to provide staff support to the full commission and each task force created. This includes attending meetings, conducting research, and preparing presentations and written reports for the commission and the General Assembly. Personal services and standard operating costs are included and prorated in year one to reflect the General Fund paydate shift and an August 1 start date.

- *Meeting and Travel expenses.* Meeting and travel expenses are estimated to cost \$95,976 per year for mileage reimbursement, lodging, meals, and the rental of meeting space for 12 meetings. Costs in year one are prorated for seven meetings, beginning December 2019. Because the commission will be comprised of members from throughout the state it is assumed that meetings will be held statewide and meeting and travel expenditures will be incurred for each meeting.
- *Consultant Services.* The DPS will contract with a consultant to facilitate commission meetings, identify and prioritize areas of study, and to oversee commission task forces. This assumes 10 hours of facilitation time per month for a total of 120 hours of facilitation services per year. Using the rate of \$225 per hour, it is estimated this will cost \$27,000 per year. Costs in year one assume 100 total hours for 70 hours of meeting facilitation and 30 hours of planning and preparation.

**Department of Higher Education, Colorado State Forest Service.** Beginning in FY 2019-20 and continuing until the repeal of this commission, this bill increases workload for the State Forest Service to have a representative on the commission.

**Department of Regulatory Agencies.** This bill increases workload for the Department of Regulatory Agencies to conduct a sunset review of the commission in FY 2023-24, prior to the September 1, 2024, commission repeal date. This workload increase can be accomplished within existing appropriations as part of the department's normal sunset review workload.

**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 estimated to be \$13,159 in FY 2019-20 and \$16,184 in FY 2020-21 and beyond until the commission is repealed.

### **Local Government.**

Beginning in FY 2019-20 continuing until the repeal of this commission, this bill increases local government workload for members of the commission. This includes firefighter, county sheriff, county, municipal, and special district representatives.

### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

### **State Appropriations**

For FY 2019-20, this bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$142,628 and an allocation of 1.0 FTE to the Department of Public Safety.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties  
Municipalities  
Sheriffs

Fire Chiefs  
Natural Resources  
Special Districts

Information Technology  
Public Safety