



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0064
Prime Sponsors:

Date: September 30, 2021
Bill Status: Bill Request
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Bill Topic: STATEWIDE REGULATION OF CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS

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 |

The bill allows individuals on bicycles and other non-motorized vehicles to make safety stops at controlled intersections under certain circumstances. In FY 2022-23, the bill may increase state and local government expenditures by a minimal amount.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Transportation Legislation Review Committee.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, local governments may allow bicycles, electric scooters and other non-motorized vehicles to make safety stops at intersections under certain circumstances. A safety stop allows slowing to a speed of 15 miles per hour or less, and then continuing through an intersection without stopping if there is no traffic in which to yield. This bill establishes uniform requirements statewide that allow bicycles, electric scooters, and other non-motorized vehicles to make safety stops at intersections throughout the state.

Comparable Crime Analysis

Legislative Council Staff is required to include certain information in the fiscal note for any bill that creates a new crime, changes the classification of an existing crime, or changes an element of an existing crime. This section outlines data on crimes comparable to the offense in this bill and discusses assumptions on future rates of criminal conviction for those offense.

Prior conviction data and assumptions. Under current law, bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters have all of the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle, unless otherwise exempted by law. In localities that did not adopt ordinances allowing safety stops for these vehicles, this includes gliding through an intersection without stopping. Because the offense of gliding through

an intersection without stopping could constitute a number of different traffic offenses, to form an estimate on the prevalence of this crime, the fiscal note analyzed the existing offense of disobeying official traffic control devices, a class A traffic infraction, as a comparable crime. From 2018 to 2020, 297 offenders have been sentenced and convicted for this existing offense, of which 205 were male, 91 were female, and 1 where gender was unknown. Demographically, 227 were White, 27 were African American, 24 were Hispanic, 5 were Asian, 3 were Indian, 6 were designated as Other, and 5 where race was not identified.

Assumptions. Because individuals on bicycles and other non-motorized vehicles likely make up a small portion of controlled intersection traffic offenses, the fiscal note assumes that there will be a minimal reduction in infractions under the bill. Because the bill is not expected to have a tangible impact on traffic infraction-related revenue or expenditures at the state or local levels, these potential impacts are not discussed further in this fiscal note.

Visit leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes for more information about criminal justice costs in fiscal notes.

State Government

In FY 2022-23 only, this bill will minimally increase workload in the Departments of Public Safety, Revenue, and Transportation to update materials to reflect the change in law. This workload is minimal and can be accomplished within the existing appropriations of each department.

Local Government

In FY 2022-23, the bill will increase workload for local governments to revise their ordinances if they conflict with the new state requirements. These costs have not been estimated for this fiscal note, but will vary based on jurisdiction.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Municipalities

Transportation