



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## BILL 6: PARATRANSIT SERVICES

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**Prime Sponsors:**

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

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### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill imposes new duties on any entities providing paratransit services in the state and creates the Paratransit Task Force.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas:

- State Expenditures
- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government
- Statutory Public Entity

**Appropriations.** For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$32,387 to the Legislative Department.

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

Type of Impact <sup>1</sup>	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$40,113	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.4 FTE	0.0 FTE

<sup>1</sup> Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the tables below.

**Table 1A  
State Expenditures**

<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
General Fund	\$32,387	\$0
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$7,727	\$0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$40,114	\$0
<b>Total FTE</b>	0.4 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

Beginning on January 1, 2026, the bill places additional duties on political subdivisions, public entities, or nonprofit corporations who provide paratransit services in Colorado. Paratransit is complementary parallel transit services for individuals with disabilities who cannot use regular or fixed route transit for some or all of their needs. The bill requires those entities to:

- coordinate with local public emergency services providers to create a plan to communicate information and provide paratransit services during emergencies;
- ensure fare collection technology for paratransit is comparable to the options offered for regular or fixed route transit; and
- consult with impacted community members and conduct an impact analysis before reducing the service area for paratransit.

The bill also creates the Paratransit Task Force (task force), which must study and make recommendations on standardization and best practices for paratransit services. The task force has 16 members, including three legislative members; four members representing disability advocacy organizations; five members representing transit organizations; one member representing a private company that partners with a transit agency to provide paratransit services; one member representing the Colorado Disability Opportunity Office; one member appointed by the Governor to enhance the expertise of the task force; and the Lieutenant Governor, or their designee, who will serve as Chair of the task force.

The task force is required to meet at least three times in 2025 and submit a summary of work and recommendations report to the Transportation Legislation Review Committee by October 15, 2025. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) must include a summary of the task force's work and recommendations in its annual presentation to the General Assembly in January 2026.

## Assumptions

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The fiscal note assumes that Legislative Council Staff (LCS) will be responsible for writing the Paratransit Task Force’s final report and coordinating all task force meetings.

## State Expenditures

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The bill increases state expenditures in the Legislative Department by about \$40,000 in FY 2025-26. These costs, which are paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below. The bill also minimally affects workload in other departments.

**Table 2**  
**State Expenditures**  
**Legislative Department**

<b>Cost Component</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
Personal Services	\$29,396	\$0
Legislator Per Diem	\$1,007	\$0
Travel Costs	\$1,984	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$7,727	\$0
FTE – Personal Services	0.4 FTE	0.0 FTE
FTE – Legal Services	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$40,114</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.4 FTE</b>	<b>0.0 FTE</b>

## Staff

The LCS requires 0.4 FTE policy and research staff to support the meetings, committee research, and final report for the Paratransit Task Force. Standard operating costs are included.

## Travel Costs and Legislator Per Diems

The task force includes 16 members who will meet at least three times during the 2025 interim. Costs are based on a per diem of \$111 for each legislator and travel reimbursements for all task force members of an estimates \$124 for meetings at the Capitol. The fiscal note assumes the task force will meet three times.

## 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 may include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, leased space, and indirect cost assessments, are shown in the expenditure table above.

## **Other Agency Impacts**

Workload will minimally increase within CDOT and the Department of Labor and Employment to support their representatives on the Paratransit Task Force.

Workload within the Governor's Office will minimally increase to support the Lieutenant Governor, or the Lieutenant Governor's designee, in their role as the Chair of the Paratransit Task Force and to appoint two additional task force members.

## **Local Government**

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The bill increases expenditures for municipalities that provide emergency services in order for these municipalities to work with paratransit providers to establish the communication and paratransit services plan for emergencies. For municipalities that provide paratransit services, there will be costs to comply with the bill's requirements to develop the emergency plan, adjust fare collection technology, and conduct impact analyses prior to reducing paratransit services.

## **Statutory Public Entity**

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The Regional Transportation District (RTD), which provides Access-A-Ride paratransit services, will have costs to comply with the bill's requirements to develop the emergency plan, adjust fare collection technology as-needed, and conduct impact analyses prior to reducing paratransit services.

## **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.

## **State Appropriations**

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For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$32,387 to the Legislative Department, and 0.4 FTE, as follows:

- \$2,991 to the General Assembly for legislator per diem and travel reimbursement; and
- \$29,396 and 0.4 FTE to Legislative Council Staff.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Governor's Office of Boards and  
Commissions

Health Care Policy and Financing

Labor

Legislative Council Staff

Legislative Legal Services

Municipalities

Public Safety

Regional Transportation District

Transportation

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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.