



FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 18-0638
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Catlin
Sen. Coram

Date: February 22, 2018
Bill Status: House Agriculture
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Bill Topic: AQUIFER STORAGE-AND-RECOVERY PLANS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure <i>(minimal)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity
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The bill requires the Ground Water Commission to promulgate rules for applying for approval of aquifer storage-and-recovery plans. The bill increases state workload by a minimal amount on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the Ground Water Commission in the Department of Natural Resources to promulgate rules for applying for approval of aquifer storage-and-recovery plans. The commission is required to publish a completed application and hold a hearing if an objection is filed. The commission is required to approve an aquifer storage-and-recovery plan if it meets both statutory and commission requirements.

Background

The Colorado Ground Water Commission is a regulatory body authorized by the General Assembly to manage and control ground water resources within eight designated ground water basins in eastern Colorado where users rely primarily on ground water as their source of water. The commission is authorized to issue large capacity well permits, changes in water rights and replacement wells, and to adopt rules and policies.

State Expenditures

This bill will increase workload for the Ground Water Commission to promulgate rules and to review and administer aquifer storage-and-recovery plans. The water court in the Judicial Branch may have a minimal increase in workload to hear appeals from the commission in the future. All workload increases can be addressed within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 8, 2018, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2018, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology
Law

Judicial
Natural Resources