



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-073: ORDER OF ADDITIONAL PARENTING TIME

Prime Sponsors:
Sen. Bright

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill allows a court to order make up parenting time when a parent was wrongfully denied parenting time.

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

- Minimal State Workload

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
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

In domestic relations cases when there is an allegation of neglect or abuse against one parent, the accused parent's parenting time is often paused or restricted. This bill allows a court to give extra parenting time to a parent or legal guardian if they were wrongfully denied that parenting time. This can happen when a law enforcement agency, child welfare agency, or county human or social services department investigated and did not find evidence of abuse or neglect. The court must order the same kind and amount of parenting time that was denied, for example weekends, holidays, or vacations. The parent or guardian must be able to use the extra parenting time within two years after the court finds it was wrongfully denied. The court is allowed to deny this "make up" parenting time if good cause is shown.

State Expenditures

This bill minimally increases workload for the trial courts in the Judicial Department to hear requests for additional parenting time. Cases involving parenting time disputes and orders to restrict parenting time often already require multiple hearings in court, and it is assumed only a subset of these cases will involve requests for make-up parenting time as permitted by the bill. For this reason, it is assumed that the bill will not significantly impact overall court workload and no change in appropriations is required to the Judicial Department.

In addition, the Office of the Child's Representative (OCR) may have a minimal workload increase to update motions and training materials to reflect the bill's provisions. Overall, any workload impact for the OCR is expected to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial

Office of the Child's Representative

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](#).