



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1144: PROHIBIT 3D PRINTING FIREARMS & COMPONENTS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Gilchrist; Boesenecker
Sen. Sullivan; Wallace

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill prohibits three-dimensional manufacturing of firearms, possession of digital instructions for three-dimensional printing of firearms, and distribution of digital firearm production instructions.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis starting in FY 2026-27:

- Minimal State Revenue
- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government

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

The bill prohibits the following conduct:

- manufacturing or producing a firearm or firearm component using a three-dimensional (3D) printer or similar device;
- possession of instructions for 3D printing of a firearm or firearm component in circumstances that indicate intent to manufacture a firearm or firearm component; and
- sale or distribution of instructions for 3D printing of a firearm or firearm component.

The prohibitions on manufacturing and possession of instructions do not apply to federally licensed firearm manufacturers; however, the prohibition on sale or distribution of instructions does apply to federally licensed firearm manufacturers. Violations of the bill are a class 1 misdemeanor, except for a subsequent offense, which is a class 5 felony. Finally, the bill defines 3D printing and other terms relevant to the bill, and includes a severability clause.

Comparable Crime Analysis

Legislative Council Staff is required to include certain analysis in the fiscal note for any bill that creates a new crime, or that either reclassifies or creates a new factual basis for an existing crime. This section identifies comparable crimes and discusses assumptions on future conviction rates resulting from the bill.

Prior Conviction Data and Assumptions

This bill creates three new offenses: unlawful 3D printing of a firearm or firearm component, unlawful possession of digital firearms productions instructions, and unlawful distribution of digital firearm production instructions, all class 1 misdemeanors for a first offense, and class 5 felonies for a second or subsequent offense. To form an estimate on the prevalence of this new crime, the fiscal note analyzed the existing offense of unlawful conduct involving an unserialized firearm, frame, or receiver by manufacturing a firearm frame or receiver through the use of a 3D printer, a class 1 misdemeanor, as a comparable crime. From FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25, one White male has been sentenced and convicted for this offense; therefore, the fiscal note assumes that there will continue to be minimal or no additional criminal case filings or convictions for this offense under the bill. Visit the [Fiscal Notes website](#) for more information about criminal justice costs in fiscal notes.

State Revenue and Expenditures

Based on the assumptions above, this analysis assumes that there will be a minimal impact on state revenue and expenditures. Under the bill, criminal fines and court fees, which are subject to TABOR, may increase by a minimal amount. Similarly, any increase in workload and costs for the Judicial Department, including the trial courts, Division of Probation, agencies that provide representation to indigent persons, and the Department of Corrections are assumed to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

Local Government

Similar to the state, it is expected that any workload or cost increases for district attorneys to prosecute more offenses, or for county jails to imprison more individuals under the bill will be minimal. District attorney offices and county jails are funded by counties.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026, and applies to conduct occurring on or after this date.

State and Local Government Contacts

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Corrections | Public Defender |
| District Attorneys | Public Health and Environment |
| Judicial | Public Safety |
| Natural Resources | Revenue |

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](#).