



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-061: PUBLICATION CNTYS WITHOUT LEGAL NEWSPAPERS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Rich; Roberts
Rep. Lukens; Richardson

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Version: Initial Fiscal Note

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

Summary Information

Overview. This bill removes the requirement that a newspaper must be in circulation for a certain period of time to publish legal notices and outlines new alternatives for publishing notices in counties that do not have a qualifying newspaper.

No Fiscal Impact. The bill has no fiscal impact on state or 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

Under current law, legal notices must be published in a newspaper that:

- has United States's Postal Service (USPS) periodical mailing privileges;
- is published daily, triweekly, semiweekly, or weekly in the impacted county; and
- has been published in the impacted county for a certain amount of time depending on the frequency of its publication.

If no newspaper meets these requirements, the notice may be printed in a newspaper in an adjoining county that has general circulation in the impacted county. If still no newspaper applies, the notice may be published in a newspaper with general circulation in the county.

This bill removes the requirement that newspapers must be in circulation for a certain period of time and outlines new alternatives for publishing notices in counties that do not have a qualifying newspaper.

If no qualified newspaper exists, the notice may be published in a newspaper that:

- provides local news in the county and has postal delivery but not paid circulation;
- satisfies the requirements for a legal notice but is published in an adjoining county;
- provides local news in an adjoining county and has postal delivery but not paid circulation;
- satisfies the requirements for a legal publication selected with primary consideration given to geographic proximity; or,
- operates within the county, but does not meet the requirements of legal publication.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

The bill allows for additional flexibility for state and county governments to publish legal notices. The bill does not reduce the number of notices required. Because governments are still required to publish notices, the bill does not change state and local government revenue or expenditures. Therefore, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

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

All State Agencies

Legislative Council Staff

Counties

Municipalities