



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1018: LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Jackson; Joseph
Sen. Amabile

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Fiscal note status: This revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the House Health and Human Services committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to conduct a study of transition services provided by the state's Medicaid program.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas in FY 2026-27 only:

- State Expenditures

Appropriations. For FY 2026-27, the bill requires an appropriation of \$250,000 to the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$250,000	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the table below.

Table 1A
State Expenditures

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
General Fund	\$125,000	\$0
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$125,000	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$250,000	\$0
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

By August 12, 2026, the bill requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) to engage a formal stakeholder process to evaluate data regarding individuals transitioning out of nursing facilities and into home- and community-based settings. Specifically, the process must:

- develop a step-by-step description of the current transition coordination process;
- identify statutory, regulatory, and contractual timelines applicable to each entity involved in the transition process;
- collect and analyze certain data regarding current transition services;
- identify system gaps, duplications, and barriers that contribute to delays or failed transitions;
- evaluate payment structures, accountability mechanisms, and information-sharing practices; and
- develop legislative recommendations to improve timelines, accountability, and outcomes.

HCPF must use the existing Transitions Stakeholder Advisory Council to support this stakeholder process, and include the results in the department’s annual SMART Act hearing. The bill repeals on July 1, 2027.

Background

The Transitions Stakeholder Advisory Council in HCPF provides guidance and recommendations regarding operational policy and procedural changes to the Transition Services Program and creates solutions to streamline community transitions.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in HCPF by an estimated \$250,000 in FY 2026-27, paid from the General Fund and federal funds, to fulfill the stakeholder process requirements.

Contractor Fees

In FY 2026-27 only, HCPF requires an estimated \$250,000 to hire a contractor with expertise in long-term services and support systems analysis and Medicaid operations. Based on the level of detailed required by the bill, the fiscal note assumes that a contractor will perform a similar level of work as other department studies. Actual costs will be determined through the procurement process.

Legal Services

HCPF may require legal services for rulemaking and implementation, provided by the Department of Law, which can be accomplished within existing legal services appropriations.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2026-27, the bill requires the following appropriations to the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing:

- \$125,000 from the General Fund; and
- \$125,000 from federal funds.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Local Affairs

Health Care Policy and Financing

Public Health and Environment

Law

State Auditor

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](#).