



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

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

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Gilchrist; Boesenecker  
Sen. Sullivan; Wallace

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**Published for:** Senate State Affairs**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0048**Version:** First Revised Note**Date:** March 10, 2026**Fiscal note status:** This revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

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### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill prohibits three-dimensional manufacturing of firearms, and distribution of digital firearm production instructions, with certain exceptions.

**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.

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**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

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The bill prohibits the following conduct:

- knowingly manufacturing or producing a firearm or firearm component using a three-dimensional (3D) printer or similar device; and
- the knowing sale or distribution of instructions for 3D printing of a firearm or firearm component.

The prohibition on manufacturing does not apply to federally licensed firearm manufacturers or instructors and students of accredited gunsmithing programs. However, the prohibition on sale or distribution of instructions does apply to federally licensed firearm manufacturers, but not to distribution from gunsmithing instructors to students. Manufacturing violations of the bill are a class 1 misdemeanor, except for a subsequent offense, which is a class 5 felony, and distribution violations are a civil infraction. Finally, the bill defines 3D printing and other terms relevant to the bill, includes a severability clause, and provides an exception for props or other non-functional firearms and components.

## Comparable Crime Analysis

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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 two new offenses: unlawful 3D printing of a firearm or firearm component and unlawful distribution of digital firearm production instructions. Unlawful printing is a class 1 misdemeanor for a first offense, and a class 5 felony for a second or subsequent offense; unlawful distribution is a civil infraction. 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**

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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**

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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**

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

## **State and Local Government Contacts**

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

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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](#).