



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note Memorandum

TO: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: John Armstrong, Fiscal Analyst, john.armstrong@coleg.gov, 303-866-6289

DATE: April 1, 2026

Fiscal Assessment of L.002 to HB26-1288

This memorandum is an assessment of the fiscal impact of the attached proposed amendment L.002 to HB26-1288. This fiscal assessment is for the impact of the bill with inclusion of this amendment only. Any other added amendment could influence the fiscal impact.

Summary of Proposed Amendment

Amendment L.002 strikes everything below the enacting clause, replacing the introduced bill with language that creates a Jury Selection Working Group in the Judicial Department. The bill specifies the appointing authorities and membership of this new working group, which must be appointed by June 15, 2026. Members of the working group serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for their expenses.

The working group must identify best practices regarding the amount of time provided to attorneys in voir dire, juror rehabilitation, reducing bias in jury selection and training for judges and lawyers for jury selection, among others. The working group must submit a progress report on best practices by December 1, 2026, to the General Assembly and to each Colorado Supreme Court Justice. At a mutually agreed upon date, the working group and the Supreme Court will agree on a due date for the final report of recommendations. The Supreme Court must respond to this final report by June 15, 2027, and post their response on the Judicial Department's website. The working group is repealed on July 1, 2027.



Fiscal Impact of Amendment

Amendment L.002 eliminates the state expenditures identified in the published fiscal note dated March 9, 2026, by eliminating the need for the trial courts in the Judicial Department to spend additional time reviewing questionnaires and conducting voir dire proceedings according to the additional requirements of the introduced bill. Instead, the bill creates additional workload and costs for a new working group, as outlined below.

Bill's Revised Fiscal Impact with Amendment

With Amendment L.002, workload and costs in the Judicial Department will minimally increase in FY 2026-27 only. The Judicial Department will make the required appointments for the working group, host meetings, reimburse expenses for working group members and review the required reports and recommendations made by the working group and the Supreme Court. These additional tasks and expenses are expected to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

Other state entities, including the State Public Defender, the Attorney General, and associations of District Attorneys, Lawyers and Judges will have a minimal workload increase to make the required appointments and for representatives to serve on the working group.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts with Amendment L.002

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
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