



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1052: RIGHTS FOR VICTIMS OF CERTAIN CRIMES

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Woog; Stewart R.
Sen. Carson

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Published for: Senate Judiciary**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0519**Version:** Second Revised Note**Date:** April 24, 2026**Fiscal note status:** This revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill provides additional victim rights around crime lab misconduct cases and restitution hearings, using aliases, and clarifying who can be a designated representative for the victim.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Minimal State Expenditures
- 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 modifies provisions of the Victim Rights Act, as outlined below.

Crime Lab Misconduct Cases and Restitution Hearings

The bill requires that a victim be notified by the district attorney if there is an evidentiary hearing on a post-conviction petition for relief as a result of a crime laboratory employee's wrongful action and of restitution assessment hearings.

Use of an Alias

The bill establishes the right for a victim to be referred to by an abbreviation, pseudonym, initials, or other preferred name during hearings.

Lawful Representative of Victim

The bill clarifies that if the victim is a child or an at-risk adult, the lawful representative, or the person who acts in the best interests of the victim, cannot include the defendant or alleged offender in the underlying case.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload in the Judicial Department to reflect the choice of an alias by a victim in the case management database. This workload can be accomplished within existing resources. In addition, to the extent guardians ad litem are designated as a lawful representative, costs in the office will increase. The fiscal note assumes such appointments will be minimal and no change in appropriation is required.

Local Government

Workload to district attorney offices will increase to notify victims of post-conviction hearings and to coordinate any requests for retesting. In addition, costs will increase to make any changes to the ACTION system to reflect preferred names for victims. Programing costs are estimated at about \$100 per hour. District attorney offices are funded by the counties within the judicial district.

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

District Attorneys

Public Safety

Judicial