



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-018: LEGAL PROTECTIONS FOR DIGNITY OF MINORS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Wallace; Kolker
Rep. Froelich; Garcia

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law

Drafting number: LLS 26-0200

Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: May 26, 2026

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires a court to suppress name change petition records for petitioners under 18 years old.

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

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 (General Fund)	\$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

Starting July 1, 2026, the bill requires a court to suppress the court record for a name change petition if the petitioner is under 18 years old. The suppressed record may be used for administrative purposes by a court, but may not be published and can only be accessed by other persons with a valid court order or affidavit authorizing access. This process does not apply to name changes that are granted pursuant to an exception for a person adjudicated for a felony. Additionally, a person who filed a name change petition prior to July 1, 2026, may petition to suppress the record of the name change petition, which the court must grant.

State Revenue

Starting in FY 2026-27, state revenue may minimally increase in the Judicial Department if individuals file petitions to suppress the record of a name change petition initiated prior to July 1, 2026. Revenue from filing fees is subject to TABOR. The fiscal note assumes these circumstances apply in a narrow set of cases, and that any increase in revenue will be minimal.

State Expenditures

Starting in FY 2026-27, workload will increase in the trial courts of the Judicial Department to update policies and procedures to ensure petitions are suppressed, which will include updating IT systems and new form creation. Judicial officer time will increase to hear any additional petitions to suppress records for name change petitions prior to July 1, 2026. The overall impact is expected to be minimal, and no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on April 21, 2026.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Judicial

Human Services

Personnel and Administration