



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1297: UNIFORM LANGUAGE FOR MISDEMEANOR TRAFFIC OFFENSE

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Carter; Luck
Sen. Rich; Exum

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law

Drafting Number: LLS 26-0380

Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: June 23, 2026

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill, which was recommended by the Statutory Revision Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill amends instances of "traffic misdemeanor" to make "misdemeanor traffic offense" the uniform term used throughout statute.

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

- Minimal State Workload
- 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

Under current law, both “misdemeanor traffic offense” and “traffic misdemeanor” are used to describe the same type of traffic offense. The bill amends instances of “traffic misdemeanor” to make “misdemeanor traffic offense” the uniform term used throughout statute.

State Expenditures

In FY 2026-27 only, workload will increase in the Judicial Department to update the description of offenses in the law table. This increase is expected to be minimal, and no change in appropriations is required.

Local Government

Similar to the state, in FY 2026-27 only workload and costs will increase for district attorneys to update their shared case management system and printed materials. This increase is expected to be minimal and absorbable.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 5, 2026, and takes effect on August 12, 2026, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Denver County Courts	Public Defender
District Attorneys	Public Safety
Judicial	Revenue

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](#).