



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 26-1038: COUNTY COMMISSIONER REDISTRICTING

**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Paschal; Clifford

Sen. Snyder

**Fiscal Analyst:**

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**Bill Outcome:** Signed into Law

**Drafting Number:** LLS 26-0591

**Version:** Final Fiscal Note

**Date:** July 14, 2026

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

### Summary Information

**Overview.** For counties that elect county commissioners by district, the bill requires boards of county commissioners to appoint independent county commissioner redistricting commissions to develop redistricting plans. The bill removes advisory committees from the redistricting process.

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

- Local Government

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

| Type of Impact          | Budget Year<br>FY 2026-27 | Out Year<br>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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For counties that elect county commissioners by district, the bill requires that the county commissioners appoint independent redistricting commissions made up equally of members affiliated with the two largest political parties, and members not affiliated with a political party, to develop redistricting plans. County commissioners may not serve on redistricting commissions. County commissioners must direct the redistricting commissions to either:

- approve one final plan that the board of county commissioners is required to adopt; or
- approve at least three final plans from which the board of county commissioners may select the final plan to adopt.

If county commissioners identify elements of a proposed plan that do not comply with the criteria for determining county commissioner districts, the board of county commissioners can direct the redistricting commission to modify the plan and extend the timeline for plan completion. Each redistricting commission is required to adopt a composite formula to determine district competitiveness measured as a percentage.

The bill removes the role of advisory committees that currently support the current county commissioner redistricting commissions. The bill clarifies that it applies to counties whether or not they are home rule counties and specifies that any qualified elector of the county may challenge the adoption of a redistricting plan.

## Background

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Boundaries for county commissioner districts are redrawn every 10 years based on data from the most recent United States Census. Currently, Arapahoe, El Paso, and Weld counties conduct county commissioner elections by district. Each of these counties appointed independent redistricting commissions supported by advisory committees to develop plans using 2020 U.S. Census data for the previous redistricting.

## Local Government

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The counties of Arapahoe, El Paso, and Weld, will be required to appoint independent redistricting commissions after the 2030 U.S. Census. At that time, expenditures for staffing, commission member travel and per diem, public hearings, and computer hardware and software will increase, but are expected to be comparable to other redistricting options.

## Effective Date

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The bill was signed into law by the Governor on June 4, 2026, and takes August 12, 2026, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Counties

Judicial

State

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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](#).