



Fiscal Impact Statement

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

INITIATIVE 177: RIGHT TO NATURAL GAS

Analyst: Colin Gaiser, colin.gaiser@coleg.gov, 303-866-2677

Date: March 9, 2026

Summary Information

Overview. The measure creates a constitutional right for distributors to sell and consumers to purchase natural gas for cooking and heating.

Types of impacts. The measure is projected to affect the following areas:

- State Expenditures
- Local Government

Disclaimer. This initial fiscal impact statement has been prepared for an initiative approved for petition circulation by the Secretary of State. If the initiative is placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff may revise this estimate for the ballot information booklet (Blue Book) if new information becomes available. Any appropriations required to implement this measure will be addressed through the annual or supplemental budget process if this measure is approved by voters.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

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

Summary of Measure

Initiative 177 creates a constitutional right for distributors to sell and consumers to purchase natural gas for cooking and heating.

State Expenditures

The measure may increase expenditures for state agencies to revise technical assistance to local governments concerning building codes that conflict with the right to purchase or sell natural gas. The measure may also increase workload and legal services for state agencies implementing the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan.

Local Government

Local governments that currently have or are considering building codes that prohibit or restrict natural gas in commercial and residential development will have increased costs to conform the codes with state law, and to modify permitting, inspection, and compliance activities.

Effective Date

If approved by voters at the 2026 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Law

Local Affairs

Public Health and Environment

Regulatory Agencies