



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB17-1017

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0622
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Kennedy

Date: January 19, 2017
Bill Status: House Local Government
Fiscal Analyst: Chris Creighton (303-866-5834)

BILL TOPIC: COUNTY SURVEYOR DUTIES

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing minimal workload increase.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill clarifies the duties of a county surveyor, provides for compensation of services through an agreement between the surveyor and the board of county commissioners, and allows counties to have some surveying services contracted out to qualified private professionals or provided by a county department that employs licensed surveyors. This bill also increases the time for counties to fill a surveyor vacancy from 90 days to 6 months, and modifies the procedure for boundary line disputes.

Background

The county surveyor represents the county in boundary disputes; files all surveys, field notes, calculations, and maps; establishes corner monuments in cases of disputes; and creates and maintains a land survey record file and index system. Salaries for county surveyors are set in statute and currently range from \$1,000 per year for surveyors in the smallest counties, to up to \$5,500 per year for surveyors in the largest counties. Under current law, the board of county commissioners may provide additional compensation to a county surveyor for services performed outside of the statutorily defined duties.

State Expenditures

This bill minimally increases workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies. Under this bill, if petitioned by the county commissioners in a boundary dispute, the state engineer must define the boundary and file a survey monument record. The state engineer currently resolves

boundary disputes; however, the requirement to file a survey monument record will increase the number of records filed in the Colorado State Land Survey Monument Records database. This increases workload for the State Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors to receive and file the records. This increase in workload is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Local Government Impact

This bill may impact county costs and workload in several ways. First, county workload increases to create financial compensation agreements between the county surveyor and county commission. Second, costs may be decreased in counties that utilize other county departments to perform work for which the surveyor was previously compensated for. Third, for counties that choose to contract work out, costs and workload are increased to enter into contractual agreements and pay for the work. Any impacts will vary by county and are not expected to be significant.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 9, 2017, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 10, 2017, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Natural Resources

Information Technology
Regulatory Agencies

Local Affairs