



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**HB17-1338**

**FINAL  
FISCAL NOTE**

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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 17-1189 **Date:** August 1, 2017  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Bridges; Liston **Bill Status:** Signed into Law  
 Sen. Marble; Kagan **Fiscal Analyst:** Kerry White (303-866-3469)

**BILL TOPIC:** MUNICIPAL COURT BOND HOLD NOTIFICATION AND HEARING

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
<b>State Revenue</b> Cash Funds	Potential minimal increase.	
<b>State Expenditures</b>	Potential minimal workload increase.	
<b>Appropriation Required:</b> None.		
<b>Future Year Impacts:</b> Ongoing potential minimal revenue and workload increases.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill establishes procedures related to a defendant held in jail due to a municipal hold.

**Procedures for municipal holds.** It sets time frames for the notification of the municipal court of a municipal hold when the defendant is in jail and does not immediately receive a personal recognizance bond (PR bond). When the municipal hold is the sole basis for detention, the jail is required to notify the court within four hours; in other cases, notification is required to be prompt. In instances where the detention is solely due to a municipal hold, the court must hold a hearing within two calendar days. When a defendant has previously failed to appear for a case at least twice and is jailed in a county other than the one in which the demanding municipal court is located, the hearing must occur within four calendar days. Under the bill, Sundays and federal holidays are excluded from the definition of a calendar day. If the defendant does not appear before the municipal court in time, he or she is to be released on an unsecured PR bond unless otherwise uncooperative.

All municipal courts are required to establish an e-mail address or telephone line with voicemail, if no internet service is available, to receive notifications from jails. Jails may meet notification requirements by sending an email, fax, or teletype, or leaving a voicemail with the municipal court.

**Transfer-related hearings.** During the required hearing, the court must either arraign the defendant or, if the defendant was arrested for failure to appear, conduct the proceedings for which the defendant failed to appear except when that proceeding is a trial, evidency hearing, or requires the presence of a witness. If the case isn't resolved at this hearing, the municipal court is required to immediately conduct a bond hearing to consider and set the least restrictive conditions for the defendant's release on bond.

***Municipal court orders.*** Each municipal court is required to adopt standing orders to implement the bill and to provide those orders to each jail within the county where the municipal court is located. In every arrest warrant issued by a municipal court, the court is required to order that the defendant be released on a PR bond with no other conditions if the appearance requirements described above are not adhered to.

### **State Revenue**

Beginning in FY 2017-18, the bill may increase state cash fund revenue in the Judicial Department. To the extent that a municipal defendant petitions a district court for relief, the court will collect a filing fee of \$224. Additional filings are expected to be minimal, which will increase revenue by a minimal amount.

### **State Expenditures**

Beginning in FY 2017-18, the bill may increase workload for the Judicial Department if a municipal defendant petitions a district court for relief. This workload impact is anticipated to be minimal and will not require an adjustment in appropriations for any agency of the Judicial Department.

### **Local Government Impact**

***Municipal courts.*** This bill impacts municipal courts in several ways. Workload will increase for courts to adopt standing orders concerning the treatment of certain defendants and to share that information with county jails. The bill accelerates the timing of certain court hearings, which may alter the court's workload or increase costs, especially if it results in additional bond hearings. If the bill results in more defendants being released on unsecured pr bonds without conditions, workload may decrease. Finally, the bill may increase costs to establish a dedicated email or telephone line to receive notifications from jails. As of this writing, no data are available from which to estimate the impact of this bill on municipal courts.

***Counties.*** To the extent that the bill reduces the amount of time a defendant spends in jail awaiting a municipal court hearing, costs will be reduced. The cost to house an offender in county jails varies from about \$53 to \$114 per day. As of this writing, no data are available to estimate the potential savings to counties.

### **Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on June 6, 2017, and takes effect January 1, 2018, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties  
Municipalities

Judicial  
Sheriffs

Local Affairs