



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 18-1072	Date:	April 17, 2018
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Marble Rep. Arndt; Becker J.	Bill Status:	Senate Agriculture
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Bill Topic: ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure (<i>minimal</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill allows chiropractors to perform chiropractic services on animal patients without prior veterinary medical clearance if certain conditions are met. It will minimally increase workload for the Department of Regulatory Agencies.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

This bill removes the requirement that a registered animal chiropractor receive medical clearance by a licensed veterinarian to perform animal chiropractic treatment if certain education and training requirements are met. Specifically, the chiropractor must complete a one-hour jurisprudence course concerning the laws, rules, and procedures for the identification and notification of certain contagious, infectious, and zoonotic diseases, and completes an eight-hour course on recognizing the earlier indicators and clinical signs of various diseases in dog and equid patients. The bill sets forth the standards for the course and specifies that a chiropractor is not required to retake the courses to renew or reinstate his or her registration to practice animal chiropractic. In addition, the bill requires that two hours of continuing education, out of the current 20-hour requirement, be focused on contagious, infectious, and zoonotic diseases.

When treating an animal patient, the chiropractor must notify the licensed veterinarian treating the animal within seven days, or if there is no veterinarian of record, provide documentation on the treatment to the person bringing the animal for treatment. If a chiropractor suspects that the animal patient has had exposure to or is exhibiting symptoms of certain contagious diseases, he or she must stop treatment and notify the animal's licensed veterinarian and the State Veterinarian in the Department of Agriculture.

State Expenditures

This bill increases state agency workload in two areas. First, the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies will have an increase in workload to update rules and conduct outreach with licensed chiropractors and veterinarians about the changes under the bill. The division may also have workload to receive and address additional complaints regarding chiropractors' compliance with the requirements of the bill. The State Veterinarian's Office in the Department of Agriculture may receive additional reports of contagious disease from chiropractors. It is assumed that workload in these agencies can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 8, 2018, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2018, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed. It applies to conduct occurring on or after this date.

State and Local Government Contacts

Agriculture
Law

Information Technology
Regulatory Agencies