



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 19-1195

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 19-0497
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Mullica

Date: March 11, 2019
Bill Status: House SVMA
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Bill Topic: RESTRICT ELECTION COMMUNICATIONS COUNTY CANDIDATES

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill prohibits a candidate for county elected office from sending any mass communication within 60 days immediately prior to a primary, general, or special election in which the name of the candidate is on the ballot. It requires a one-time expenditure for counties for reprinting costs.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill prohibits a candidate for county commissioner, county clerk and recorder, sheriff, coroner, treasurer, assessor, or surveyor from sending any mass communication within 60 days of a primary, general, or special election at which that candidate's name appears on the ballot.

In addition, mass communications sent on any date may not contain solicitations of votes or of campaign contributions, partisan language, language disparaging another public official or political party, or gratuitous biographical or personal information about a public official.

The bill also prohibits any materials included within a mail ballot packet from including the name of the individual serving as county clerk and recorder at the time of an election.

Local Government

The bill will require a one-time expenditure by counties to reset, reprogram and reprint various materials to ensure they do not include the name of the county clerk. This material includes motor vehicle documents, election materials, recording and title information, and county commission materials, among other documents. The cost to counties with more than 50,000 residents is estimated to be roughly \$80,000 per county; the cost to counties with fewer than 50,000 residents is estimated to be roughly \$8,200 per county.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
County Coroners

County Assessors
Secretary of State

County Clerks
Sheriffs