



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

SB 20-098

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0322
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Cooke
Rep. Snyder

Date: January 28, 2020
Bill Status: Senate SVMA
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Bill Topic: **DISASTER RESPONSE FIRST INFORMER BROADCASTER**

Summary of Fiscal Impact: **No fiscal impact.** The bill allows credentialed individuals to gain access to otherwise closed areas during emergencies or natural disasters in order to maintain broadcasting equipment necessary to communicate with first responders and the public.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

The bill allows broadcast engineers, technicians, and other key personnel to access studios, transmitters, tower sites, and other infrastructure directly related to maintaining an over-the-air signal during an emergency or natural disaster. A duly credentialed first informer broadcaster may gain access to an otherwise closed area under emergency conditions unless, in the judgment of the officer or agency in control of the area, access would expose the individual to an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm. The bill does not apply to reporters, photographers, or other news gathering and reporting activities.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

In emergency or natural disaster situations, allowing credentialed individuals to access otherwise closed areas to maintain broadcasting equipment does not impose any workload change on local governments or law enforcement agencies. Similarly, the bill does not change the workload, expenditures, or revenue of any state agency. For this reason, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Public Safety

Governor
Regulatory Agencies

Municipalities