Bill Topic: GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION CO-OP EASEMENT BROADBAND

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

The bill would have expanded the authority to install broadband facilities on an electric utility easement on real property to an electric generation and transmission cooperative association. The bill may have minimally increased state revenue and state and local workload beginning in FY 2020-21.

Appropriation Summary:
No appropriation was required.

Fiscal Note Status:
This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill. This bill was not enacted into law; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

Summary of Legislation

The bill allows electric generation and transmission cooperative associations to install, or allow a commercial broadband supplier to install, broadband facilities on an electric utility easement on real property. The bill also allows the installation of new underground broadband facilities on electric utility easements, subject to notice and procedural requirements.

Assumptions

This fiscal note assumes that the majority of transactions under this bill are between private or non-state entities.

State Revenue and Expenditures

To the extent that this bill increases civil case filings regarding easements, Judicial Department civil case filing revenue and trial court workload will increase. The fiscal note assumes that there will be minimal or very limited case filings under the bill and no change in appropriations is required. Civil case filing fees are subject to TABOR.
Local Government

Workload may increase for local governments that are commercial broadband suppliers or broadband affiliates. Only Longmont currently provides broadband services, while Fort Collins is currently building and implementing broadband services. To date, 40 Colorado counties and 91 municipalities have authorized their local government to provide telecommunications services.

Effective Date

The bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Local Government Committee on February 18, 2020.

State and Local Government Contacts

County Clerks       Information Technology       Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit: leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes.