



Legislative Council Staff

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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 21-0079	Date:	February 16, 2021
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Lee; Gardner Rep. Gonzales-Gutierrez; Geitner	Bill Status:	Senate Judiciary
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Bill Topic: JUVENILE JUSTICE CODE REORGANIZATION

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

The bill reorganizes juvenile justice-related provisions of the Children's Code. It creates a one-time state and local workload increase.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill reorganizes juvenile justice-related provisions of the Children's Code (Title 19 of the Colorado Revised Statutes), makes a number of conforming amendments to reflect the reorganization, and updates some definitions.

Background

House Joint Resolution 18-1013 encouraged the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council and the Children's Code Committee to redraft Article 2 of Title 19 by August 2020. According to the council's 2019 annual report, the Children's Code Committee recommended to reorder "Article 2 with new section labels and additional parts to promote a clear, understandable, user-friendly version of the Children's Code...; [to add] a General Provision section to the new Article 2.5 where all relevant definitions can be easily found in one place; and [to make] consistent the various terms used to describe caregivers, as appropriate."¹ The full annual report is available online at:

<https://cdpsdocs.state.co.us/dcj/DCJ%20External%20Website/OAJJA/2019%20Annual%20Juvenile%20Justice%20Report%20to%20Governor.pdf>.

¹ Colorado Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council, 2019, pg. 21

State Expenditures

Starting in FY 2021-22, this bill will increase the workload in a number of state agencies, including the Judicial Department, the Juvenile Parole Board, and the Department of Human Services to update any policies, forms, manuals, or standards with new citations. This work is assumed to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Local Government

Expenditures and workload in district attorney offices will increase to update forms, publications, victim's pamphlets, and other information with the new citations. In addition, workload to the Colorado District Attorneys' Council will increase to update internal charge codes as well as to provide trainings on the reorganization. It is estimated that approximately 500 prosecutors will be required up to 8 hours of training and reviewing the new statute.

Technical Note

The effective date does not grant agencies adequate time to address the administrative updates required under the bill.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Child Welfare	Counties	District Attorneys
Education	Human Services	Information Technology
Judicial	Public Safety	School Districts