



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 24-0495	Date:	February 2, 2024
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Velasco Sen. Cutter	Bill Status:	House Ag., Water & Natural Res.
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Bill Topic: **MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCIES**

Summary of Fiscal Impact: **No fiscal impact.** The bill makes technical changes to statutes related to the local and state response to wildland fires. The bill aligns statute with current practice and does not make substantive changes to policy or practice.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill makes several changes to laws related to the emergency response for managing wildland fires. Notably, the bill:

- specifies the ability of all fire response agencies to transfer management of a wildland fire to the county sheriff when a fire exceeds the capability of a fire response agency to manage;
- repeals obsolete language requiring that emergency responses to wildfires adhere to a community wildfire protection plan, which is primarily a preventative planning document and not an emergency response tool;
- provides flexibility to the Division of Fire Prevention and Control in the Department of Public Safety to determine when to use a unified command management strategy; and
- repeals obsolete language referencing the division as the lead state agency for wildland fire response and suppression to align with the state emergency operations plan.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

The bill makes technical changes, removes obsolete provisions, and generally aligns statute with current practice related to the emergency response to wildland fires, and the role of state and local emergency response agencies. The bill will not change the expenditures or revenue of any state agency, local government, or local emergency response agency. For these reasons, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties	Law	Municipalities
Personnel	Public Safety	Sheriffs
Special Districts		

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 the [General Assembly website](#).