



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 24-1079	Date:	March 27, 2024
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Marvin; Young	Bill Status:	House Health & Human Services
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Bill Topic: **CASA VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH FOSTER YOUTH**

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

The bill allows CASA volunteers to work with youth aged 18 to 21. The bill minimally increases state workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

The bill allows a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) to provide independent and objective information about children and youth, instead of just children. Under current law, youth is defined as someone under the age of 21.

Background

CASA volunteers may be appointed by a court for any action under titles 14, 15, and 19 when the court finds it is in the interest of a child to have a volunteer appointed. [House Bill 21-1094](#) created the Foster Youth in Transition Program, which allowed eligible youth ages 18 to 21 to continue to receive foster care services on a voluntary basis.

State Expenditures

By adding youth to the definition of CASAs, the bill allows CASAs to be involved in cases with youth aged 18 to 21. While adding more cases where CASA volunteers may be involved will increase workload in the Judicial Department to process more documents and to add more volunteers to the case management system, this workload can be accomplished within existing resources. For context, there were 206 foster youth in transition cases in FY 2021-22 and 277 cases in FY 2022-23.

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

Judicial Office of the Child's Representative

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](#).