

# **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Revised Fiscal Note**

(replaces fiscal note dated February 22, 2024)

| <b>Drafting Number:</b> | LLS 24-0592     | Date:           | March 26, 2024                                      |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| <b>Prime Sponsors:</b>  | Sen. Hinrichsen | Bill Status:    | Senate Appropriations                               |
|                         |                 | Fiscal Analyst: | Matt Bishop   303-866-4796<br>matt.bishop@coleg.gov |

| Bill Topic:               | WORKERS' COMPENSATION STATE EMPLOYEES   |                                    |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Summary of Fiscal Impact: | ☐ State Revenue<br>☑ State Expenditure  | ☐ State Transfer<br>☐ TABOR Refund | ☐ Local Government<br>☑ Statutory Public Entity |  |
|                           | The bill requires the state to annually solicit quotes for workers' compensation insurance and restricts the use of certain conditions in workers' compensation settlements. It increases state and statutory public entity workload on an ongoing basis beginning in FY 2024-25. |                                    |   |  |
| Appropriation Summary:    | No appropriation is required.   |                                    |   |  |
| Fiscal Note<br>Status:    | The revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee.   |                                    |   |  |

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill prohibits the state from barring an employee from future state employment as a settlement condition when negotiating with claim filers, and it requires the Department of Personnel and Administration (DPA) to annually solicit quotes for workers' compensation insurance from Pinnacol Assurance and at least three other insurance companies and present those quotes to the General Assembly.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill increases workload in DPA to solicit additional insurance quotes and prepare the report for the General Assembly. This workload is expected to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

In addition, prohibiting the state from barring future employment with the state as a settlement condition will allow more former state employees to be covered by the state's workers' compensation policies. This may increase expenditures to the extent that employees, if reinjured, are more likely to file claims due to familiarity with the workers' compensation system. Any increase in expenditures will be addressed through the annual budget process.

## **Statutory Public Entity**

The bill increases workload for Pinnacol Assurance to provide annual quotes for workers' compensation insurance to the state.

#### **Effective Date**

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

## **Departmental Difference**

DPA estimates that expenditures will increase by up to \$9 million per year for additional workers' compensation payments to employees who would have agreed not to seek future employment with the state if the bill did not prohibit such settlement terms for workers' compensation claims. The fiscal note instead assumes that cases in which an employee is rehired by the state, reinjured, and due payments in the first year will be minimal and that any future increases, if they are incurred, will grow incrementally over time and be addressed through the annual budget process as needed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Labor and Employment Law Personnel and Administration

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 <u>General Assembly website</u>.