



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 25-1009: VEGETATIVE FUEL MITIGATION

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Mauro; Joseph  
Sen. Cutter

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### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill allows a fire protection district and certain metropolitan districts to establish a program requiring the removal of vegetative fuel on private property.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Local Government

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

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**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

<b>Type of Impact</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

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The bill allows a fire protection district or a metropolitan district that provides fire prevention services to establish a program requiring the removal of dead or dry plant material from private property that can burn and contribute to a fire, including leaves, grass, shrubs, ground litter, dead leaves, and fallen pine needles. The program must adopt policies consistent with the 2024 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code or a subsequent code, or the standards and codes adopted by the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code Board.

A district may assess a fine for owners and occupiers of private property that fail to remove vegetative fuel from the property at least ten days after a second written notice. The fine must be approximately equal to the cost of removing the vegetative fuel, must not exceed \$300 per incident, and is waived if the vegetative fuel is removed within 10 days of a fine assessment. Districts must use fine revenue only to remove vegetative fuel on private property, and must prioritize use of the money to assist with vegetative-fuel removal for low-income, single, senior, or disabled owners and occupiers. A district cannot assess a lien on any private property until there are five or more unpaid fines for violations concerning the property.

The bill also requires districts to establish a process for owners and occupiers of private property to protest a fine, and requires districts to adopt rules and policies for a vegetative fuel mitigation program only after public notice and comment.

## Local Government

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For local governments and fire protection districts that choose to implement a vegetative fuel mitigation program, the bill increases workload and expenditures to adopt required rules and policies, fulfill public notice requirements, issue notices, enforce fines for noncompliance, and provide assistance in removing vegetative fuel for certain owners and occupiers of private property. While any fines for noncompliance may increase revenue to local governments, the bill requires this revenue to go toward vegetative-fuel removal.

## Effective Date

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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

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Counties

Municipalities

Fire Chiefs

Special District Association

Local Affairs

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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](#).