

HB 25-1074: CHANGE CONFINEMENT STANDARDS EGG-LAYING HENS

Prime Sponsors: Fiscal Analyst:

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Fiscal note status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill repeals current egg-laying hen confinement standards for hens whose eggs are sold in Colorado.

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

Minimal State Workload

• State Revenue

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

	Budget Year	Out Year
Type of Impact	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
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

The bill repeals the confinement standards for egg-laying hens whose eggs are sold in Colorado created by <u>House Bill 20-1343</u>.

Under current law, a farm owner or operator cannot keep a hen in an enclosure that:

- is not a cage-free housing system;
- has less than one square foot of floor space per hen in cage-free housing system providing hens with access to vertical space; or
- has less than one and one-half square feet of floor space per hen in a cage-free housing system that does not provide access to vertical space.

Additionally, businesses may only sell eggs produced by hens kept in enclosures that adhere to these standards.

State Revenue and Expenditures

Under current law, violations of cage-free laws are subject to civil penalties, which may be recovered in court. By repealing the regulation, the bill reduces revenue from civil penalties to the CDA and court filing fees to the Judicial Department. This decrease in revenue, which is subject to TABOR, is expected to be minimal. Workload in these agencies will also minimally decrease. The CDA will continue to inspect egg producers regarding other standards and requirements.

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

Agriculture Law
Information Technology Public Health and Environment
Judicial