

HB 25-1277: INCREASING TRANSPARENCY IMPACT OF FUEL PRODUCTS

Prime Sponsors: Rep. Bacon; Joseph Sen. Cutter Fiscal Analyst: Matt Bishop, 303-866-4796 matt.bishop@coleg.gov

Published for: House Energy & Environment Drafting number: LLS 25-0818 Version: Initial Fiscal Note **Date:** February 28, 2025

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires certain fuels to be labelled regarding their impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

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

• State Revenue

Local Government

• Minimal State Workload

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year 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

Page 2 February 28, 2025

Summary of Legislation

Beginning July 1, 2026, the bill requires certain fuels to bear a label that says that burning the fuel releases greenhouse gases that are known to be linked to global heating and significant health impacts. The bill specifies how and where the label must be visible. A violation of these requirements is a deceptive trade practice under the Colorado Consumer Protection Act.

State Revenue

Civil penalties

Under the Colorado Consumer Protection Act, a person committing a deceptive trade practice may be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$20,000 for each violation. Additional penalties may be imposed for subsequent violations of a court order or injunction. This revenue is classified as a damage award and not subject to TABOR. Given the uncertainty about the number of cases that may be pursued by the Attorney General and district attorneys, as well as the wide range in potential penalty amounts, the fiscal note cannot estimate the potential impact of these civil penalties.

Filing Fees

The bill may increase revenue to the Judicial Department from an increase in civil case filings. Revenue from filing fees is subject to TABOR.

State Expenditures

Department of Law

Workload in the Department of Law will minimally increase to the extent that deceptive trade practice complaints are filed. The department will review complaints under the bill and prioritize investigations as necessary within the overall number of deceptive trade practice complaints and available resources.

Judicial Department

The trial courts in the Judicial Department may have an increase in cases filed under the Colorado Consumer Protection Act from the addition of a new deceptive trade practice. It is assumed that retailers will abide by the law and that any violation of the legislation will result in minimal number of new cases. The fiscal note assumes that this can be accomplished within existing resources and that no change in appropriations is required.

Page 3 February 28, 2025

Local Government

Similar to the state, to the extent district attorneys receive deceptive trade practice complaints related to the new deceptive trade practice under the bill, workload will increase to investigate complaints and seek relief when appropriate. It is assumed most such cases will be handled at the state level by the Attorney General.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed, and applies to conduct occurring on or after that date.

State and Local Government Contacts

Law

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>.