



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-011: DETECTION COMPONENTS FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Daugherty
Rep. Weinberg; Brown

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Fiscal note status: This revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the Senate Transportation and Energy Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill allows the Department of Public Safety to establish vendor agreements for the operation of an AI-integrated camera detection system.

Types of impacts. If appropriations are provided, the bill would affect the following areas starting in FY 2025-26:

- State Expenditures
- State Transfers

Appropriations. No appropriation is required; however, the General Assembly may choose to appropriate up to \$1,000,000 to the Department of Public Safety in FY 2025-26 to begin a vendor agreement for wildfire detection components.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact ¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	up to \$1,000,000	up to \$2,000,000
Transferred Funds ²	up to \$1,000,000	up to \$2,000,000
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

¹ Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the tables below.

² At the discretion of the General Assembly, funding may be appropriated from the General Fund to the Fire Technology Cash Fund to fund wildfire detection components authorized by the bill.

**Table 1A
 State Transfers**

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
General Fund	up to -\$1,000,000	up to -\$2,000,000
Cash Funds	up to \$1,000,000	up to \$2,000,000
Net Transfer	\$0	\$0

**Table 1B
 State Expenditures**

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Cash Funds	up to \$1,000,000	up to \$2,000,000
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	up to \$1,000,000	up to \$2,000,000
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill authorizes the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) in the Department of Public Safety (CDPS) to establish vendor agreements for the operation of wildfire detection components that are artificial-intelligence-enabled. As needed, the CDPS may issue a request for qualifications from prospective vendors to ensure agreements for the operation of detection components meet certain criteria. Among these, agreements must provide an interface for fire agencies and other end-users and ensure end-users are aware of requirements regarding criminal invasion of privacy. Additionally, the bill creates the Fire Technology Cash Fund, for use by the CDPS, to pay for vendor agreements. The CDPS may also seek gifts, grants, or donations to fund the agreement, and must include information about the agreement at the department's annual SMART Act hearing.

Assumptions

The bill authorizes, but does not require, the CDPS to enter into vendor agreements for detection components, and creates a cash fund to support these agreements. The CDPS may use gifts, grants, and donations to defray the cost of agreements. Since no source of gifts, grants, or donations has been identified at this time, the fiscal note assumes that another source of funding is required for the CDPS to implement vendor agreements. With no other source of revenue for the Fire Technology Cash Fund identified in the bill, the fiscal note assumes that a General Fund appropriation to the cash fund is required in order for the DPS to enter into any vendor agreements.

However, since the bill does not require the CDPS to enter into agreements, it is assumed that any appropriations to implement these agreements may be made, or not made, at the discretion of the General Assembly. For informational purposes, the fiscal note estimates the appropriations, transfers, and expenditures required for the DPS to begin entering into vendor agreements for the wildfire detection system starting in FY 2025-26. If funding is not provided, it is assumed that the CDPS will not enter into any vendor agreements.

State Revenue

The bill potentially increases state revenue to the Fire Technology Cash Fund from gifts, grants, or donations. At this time, no sources have been identified at this time. Gifts, grants, and donations are exempt from TABOR revenue limits.

State Transfers

If the General Assembly intends to fund the wildfire detection system authorized by the bill, \$1 million in FY 2025-26 and \$2 million in FY 2026-27 should be transferred to the Fire Technology Cash Fund. In future years, transfers will continue based on prior year levels to continue existing vendor agreements, or will increase if the number of detection components is expanded. It is assumed that any transfers to the fund will be made via an appropriation from the General Fund.

State Expenditures

If the General Assembly intends to fund the wildfire detection system authorized by the bill, expenditures in the Department of Public Safety will increase by up to \$1 million in FY 2025-26 and \$2 million in FY 2026-27. Ongoing costs will continue based on prior year levels to continue any agreements entered into, or will increase if the number of detection components is expanded. Costs are paid from the Fire Technology Cash Fund.

Starting in FY 2025-26, the CDPS may establish vendor agreements for the operation of wildfire detection components. A vendor will be selected after requests for qualifications have been submitted. Once a qualified vendor is selected the CDPS will begin paying the vendor for the agreement, which is assumed occur in FY 2025-26. Under an agreement, the CDPS will not own the detection components, but will receive wildfire detection information from the components. A single detection component is estimated to cost about \$50,000 annually, although the exact amount may vary. The cost estimate above is based on entering into vendor agreements for an increasing number of detection components, such that in future years approximately 75 to 115 total components will be active. It is assumed the maximum number of detection components will be based on the amount of funding, if any, transferred to the Fire Technology Cash Fund.

Establishing and monitoring the agreement will increase workload for the CDPS, but the expected increase is minimal and no additional funding is required for this work.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the General Assembly may choose to appropriate up to \$1,000,000 from the General Fund to the Fire Technology Cash Fund. Additionally, if this appropriation is made, another appropriation in the same amount is required from the Fire Technology Cash Fund to the Department of Public Safety.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology
Personnel

Public Safety

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](#).