



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

### SB 25-060: REPEATED PHONE CALLS OBSTRUCTION OF GOVT OPS

**Prime Sponsors:**

Sen. Catlin; Roberts  
Rep. Clifford

**Fiscal Analyst:**

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**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note

**Date:** February 3, 2025

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

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill modifies the existing offense of obstructing government operations by including repeated emergency calls without a justifiable basis.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis starting in FY 2025-26:

- State Revenue
- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government

**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

## Summary of Legislation

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The bill prohibits a person from repeated contact of a public safety emergency call center or public safety entity after an employee provides a warning to stop contacting public safety entities without a justifiable basis. The bill allows verbal, text message, or written warnings. Persons in violation commit the crime of obstructing government operations, a class 2 misdemeanor.

## Comparable Crime Analysis

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Legislative Council Staff is required to include certain information in the fiscal note for any bill that creates a new crime, changes the classification of an existing crime, or creates a new factual basis for an existing crime. The following section outlines crimes that are comparable to the offense in this bill and discusses assumptions on future rates of criminal convictions resulting from the bill.

### Prior Conviction Data

This bill creates a new factual basis for the existing offense of obstructing government operations, a class 2 misdemeanor, by including repeated contact of public safety entities after receiving a warning. From FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24, 325 persons have been convicted and sentenced for this offense. Of the persons convicted, 248 were male, 76 were female, and 1 did not have a gender identified. Demographically, 266 were White, 25 were Black/African American, 23 were Hispanic, 3 were Asian, 3 were American Indian, and 5 were classified as "Other."

### Assumptions

While it is possible for additional persons to be sentenced and convicted for this existing offense based on the expansion of prohibited activity, it is assumed that most people will follow the law, or will stop contact once they have been issued a warning. Therefore, the fiscal note assumes that there will be minimal convictions for the existing offense as modified by the bill. Visit [leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes](https://leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes) for more information about criminal justice costs in fiscal notes.

## State Revenue and Expenditures

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Based on the assumptions above, this analysis assumes that there will be a minimal impact on state revenue and expenditures. Under the bill, criminal fines and court fees, which are subject to TABOR, may increase by a minimal amount. Similarly, any increase in workload and costs for the Judicial Department, including the trial courts, Division of Probation, and agencies that provide representation to indigent persons, are assumed to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

## **Local Government**

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Similar to the state, it is expected that any workload or cost increases for district attorneys to prosecute more offenses, or for county jails to imprison more individuals under the bill will be minimal. District attorney offices and county jails are funded by counties.

## **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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District Attorneys

Judicial

Fire Chiefs

Public Safety

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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](#).