

SB 25-065: INDEMINIFICATION OF PEACE OFFICERS' CRIM CONDUCT

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Baisley Rep. Richardson

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Version: Initial Fiscal Note Date: February 6, 2025

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill clarifies that a public entity does not have to satisfy any liability of the judgment or settlement arising from a criminal violation of a peace officer.

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

State Expenditures

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

The bill clarifies that a public entity does not have to indemnify a peace office or have to satisfy any portion of the judgment or settlement from a claim arising from a criminal violation unless the peace officer's employer was a causal factor in the violation.

Background

Currently, there is a case filed with the Colorado Court of Appeals to determine if statute currently requires a public entity to satisfy any portion of the judgment or settlement from a claim arising from a peace officer's criminal violation. This case is challenging the Fremont County District Court's interpretation of Section 13-21-131 (4)(a), C.R.S.

State and Local Government Expenditures

If a court finds that public entities do need to satisfy part of a settlement against a peace officer, then the bill will decrease costs to state and local entities that hire peace officers. The fiscal note assumes that the bill clarifies current law and will minimally impact state agency liability.

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

Corrections	Judicial	Public Safety
Counties	Law	RTD
District Attorneys	Municipalities	Revenue
Higher Education	Natural Resources	Sheriffs
Human Services	Personnel	