



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-085: HEALTH-RELATED RESEARCH TEST SUBJECTS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Kipp
Rep. Rutinel; Paschal

Fiscal Analyst:

John Armstrong, 303-866-6289
john.armstrong@coleg.gov

Published for: Senate Health & Human Services

Drafting number: LLS 25-0413

Version: Initial Fiscal Note

Date: February 25, 2025

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires facilities that conduct research on dogs and cats to offer them up for adoption before performing euthanasia on the animal. The bill also requires these facilities to submit data to the Department of Public Health and Environment.

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

- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government
- Institutions of Higher Education

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 requires facilities that conduct research on dogs and cats to offer these animals up for adoption before euthanizing them, unless the animal is being euthanized for health or safety reasons. A facility that act in good faith to transfer animals to an animal shelter or rescue are immune from civil liability for circumstances related to the transfer.

The bill requires these facilities to submit data to the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) the following information:

- the total number of cats and dogs used for health-related research at the facility;
- the number of cats and dogs transferred to a shelter or rescue for adoption, including that facility's name and address; and,
- the number of cats and dogs that were adopted out through an internal adoption program operated in conjunction with the facility.

State Expenditures

Colorado State University

Colorado State University (CSU) conducts health-related research on cats and dogs and has an internal adoption program for these animals. To comply with the bill, staff will coordinate additional adoptions and submit the required data to CDPHE. This will affect workload for veterinarians, animal care technicians, and administrators. Costs are expected to be covered through institutional revenue sources, which may include adoption fees or veterinary student fees.

Department of Public Health and Environment

CDPHE will adjust their reporting databases to collect the additional information required by the bill. This additional data collection will result in a minimal workload increase for existing staff. No additional appropriation is required to CDPHE.

Local Government

Counties that operate animal shelters may incur increased costs to receive and house additional cats and dogs transferred from health-research facilities. On average, it costs a shelter \$30 per day to keep an animal in the shelter. The exact cost to counties will depend on the number of animals transferred and how long each animal is held at a shelter.

Effective Date

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

Departmental Difference

Colorado State University estimates that the bill requires a state appropriation of \$50,000 to implement the bill. This estimate covers the expenses and workload described above. The fiscal note assumes that institutional and research facility revenue sources are the appropriate funding source for these additional expenses.

State and Local Government Contacts

Agriculture

Public Health and Environment

Higher Education

Regulatory Agencies

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](#).