



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

### SB 25-140: IRRIGATION DISTRICTS INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS

---

**Prime Sponsors:**

Sen. Pelton R.  
Rep. Johnson

**Fiscal Analyst:**

Josh Abram, 303-866-3561  
josh.abram@coleg.gov

**Published for:** Senate Ag. & Natural Resources

**Drafting number:** LLS 25-0669

**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note

**Date:** February 13, 2025

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

---

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill increases the daily pay of water conservation and irrigation districts, and the value of contracts requiring ratification by a district election.

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

- 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 increases the statutory rate of daily pay for directors and election judges of a Water Conservation and Irrigation District from \$100 to \$150.

Under current law, contracts entered by the directors of a water district between \$250,000 and \$400,000 are non-binding unless ratified by at least one-third of the voters in the district, and contracts in excess of \$400,000 are non-binding unless ratified at an election conducted in the same manner as required when issuing bonds. This bill increases these thresholds to \$400,000 and \$650,000 respectively.

On July 1, 2029, and every five years thereafter, these amounts are increased by the rate of inflation.

## Local Government

---

The bill increases costs for Water and Irrigation Districts for daily compensation of directors and election judges. The bill may also reduce costs for districts by only requiring that certain contracts be ratified in an election when they are for larger amounts of money. This may reduce the frequency of elections and associated costs.

## 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 compensation and contracts on or after that date.

## State and Local Government Contacts

---

Counties

Local Affairs

Law

Natural Resource

---

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](#).