

#### SB 25-155: LEGISLATION INSIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Prime Sponsors:** 

Sen. Gonzales J. Rep. Clifford

Published for: Senate Judiciary

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

#### **Summary Information**

**Overview.** The bill creates the Legislation Inside Advisory Council in the Legislative Department.

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

State Expenditures

**Appropriations.** For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$50,000 to the Legislative Department.

# Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact <sup>1</sup>	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Expenditures	\$50,000	\$100,396
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.5 FTE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the table below.

# Table 1A State Expenditures

	<b>Budget Year</b>	Out Year
Fund Source	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
General Fund	\$50,000	\$90,803
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$0	\$9,593
Total Expenditures	\$50,000	\$100,396
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.5 FTE

# **Summary of Legislation**

The bill creates the Legislation Inside Advisory Council (council) in the legislature to provide people who are incarcerated the opportunity to identify, examine, and discuss issues, interests, and needs impacting them. The council includes four legislative members and 40 non-legislative members who are incarcerated in a Department of Corrections (DOC) facility. The bill requires Legislative Council Staff (LCS) to contract with an organization to administer the council.

The bill also establishes the Legislation Inside Advisory Council Review Committee (committee) to oversee the council's work. The committee consists of five voting members, all legislators, including the four legislative members of the council, and five nonvoting members selected from the council's non-legislative members. The bill authorizes the committee to recommend up to three bills during each interim.

# **Assumptions**

The fiscal note assumes the following timeline:

- LCS will enter into a contract in September 2025;
- council meetings will begin January 2026; and
- the advisory committee will begin meeting after July 2026.

In addition, the fiscal note assumes:

- beginning in FY 2025-26, four legislative members will attend two council meetings during the interim (requiring per-diem reimbursements) and that these meetings will occur remotely; and
- beginning in FY 2026-26, five legislative members will attend three advisory committee meetings per interim.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill increases state expenditures in the Legislative Department by \$50,000 in FY 2025-26 and \$100,396 in FY 2026-27. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below. The bill also minimally increases workload in the Department of Corrections to facilitate participation in the council.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Legislative Department

	Budget Year	Out Year
Cost Component	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
Personal Services	\$0	\$36,368
Member Per-Diem and Travel	\$0	\$4,435
Council Administrator Contract	\$50,000	\$50,000
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$0	\$9,593
Total Costs	\$50,000	\$100,396
Total FTE	0.0 FTE	0.5 FTE

#### **Legislative Department**

The department requires staff, member reimbursement costs, and contract costs to implement the bill.

## Legislative Council Staff

Starting FY 2026-27, LCS requires 0.3 FTE to support the advisory committee, as required by the bill. This level of staffing is similar to what is required to support an interim committee.

# Office of Legislative Legal Services

Starting FY 2026-27, the Office of Legislative Legal Services (OLLS) requires 0.1 FTE attorney and 0.1 FTE legislative editor to draft bills for the advisory committee. This level of staffing is similar to what is required to support an interim committee.

## General Assembly

Starting in FY 2026-27, costs to the General Assembly will increase by \$5,427 for four members to attend two council meetings remotely during the interim. This assumes a per diem rate of \$111.95 per member per meeting. In addition, costs increase for five members to attend the three advisory committee meetings with a per diem rate of \$111.95 per member per meeting and travel reimbursement of \$124 per member per meeting.

#### Council Administrator Contract

Starting in FY 2025-26, LCS must contract with a third party to facilitate the council. It is estimated the contract will be \$50,000 based on the contract for the Colorado Youth Advisory Committee. Actual costs will depend on the terms of the contract.

### **Centrally Appropriated Costs**

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which may include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, indirect cost assessments, and other costs, are shown in Table 2.

#### **Department of Corrections**

Workload in the DOC will increase to help facilitate council meetings. Based on current DOC workloads to facilitate a similar council, this workload is assumed to be absorbable and no change in appropriations is required.

#### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

# **State Appropriations**

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$50,000 to Legislative Council Staff in the Legislative Department.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Corrections

Legislative Legal Services

Legislative Council Staff