



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 24-0273
Prime Sponsors:

Date: October 10, 2023
Bill Status: Bill Request
Fiscal Analyst: John Armstrong | 303-866-6289
john.armstrong@coleg.gov

Bill Topic: **REMOTE COURT APPEARANCE FOR INTENSIVE TREATMENT**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires courts to allow a person receiving medical treatment to be able to attend non-trial court proceedings remotely unless the court has good cause to require in-person attendance. Starting in FY 2023-24, the bill minimally increases state and local expenditures.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems.

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires courts to allow a defendant receiving hospitalization or intensive outpatient care for a behavioral health disorder to choose to participate remotely for non-trial criminal proceedings. Courts may require in-person attendance if they determine there is good cause.

State Expenditures

The bill will increase workload for the trial courts in the Judicial Department for judicial officers to determine whether or not a person qualifies for remote participation. The number of criminal affected defendants is expected to be small and many courts currently allow for remote attendance in certain hearings by defendants. As a result, any additional workload is expected to be minimal.

Local Government

Workload will also increase in municipal courts for judicial officers to determine whether a defendant is eligible to choose to participate in proceedings remotely. Additional costs for software and equipment may also be required depending on the municipal court's current capacity for remote participation.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial