



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Initiative 145

Fiscal Impact Statement

Date: March 21, 2024

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LCS TITLE: ESTABLISH QUALIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATION FOR VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE

Disclaimer. This initial fiscal impact statement has been prepared for an initiative approved for petition circulation by the Secretary of State. If the initiative is placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff may revise this estimate for the ballot information booklet (Blue Book) if new information becomes available.

Summary of Measure

The measure allows veterinary professionals to register as veterinary professional associates (VPAs). Registration is required to practice as a VPA starting January 1, 2026. The measure also establishes qualifications for VPAs, title protection, scope of practice, and unauthorized practice penalties. The measure requires the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to conduct rule making, administer the registration program, and enforce violations.

State Revenue and Expenditures

No significant impact to state revenues or expenditures is expected in FY 2024-25, or in the near future, as a result of passage of the measure. The population of potential VPA applicants is expected to be minimal for several years as educational programs for VPAs continue to be established. Additionally, the state currently allows for the registration of veterinary technicians (VTs), and potential VPAs will likely come from this population. DORA will be able to administer the registration of VPAs without any additional appropriations. As the population of potential VPA applicants increases in future years, DORA may require additional resources and state revenue may increase.

Effective Date

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Regulatory Agencies

Revisions from Fiscal Summary

This fiscal impact statement contains a revised estimate for state revenue and expenditures from the fiscal summary due to new information and assumptions about the population of potential VPAs and interactions with currently regulated populations.