



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1089: COUNTY MAIL BALLOT SIGNATURE VERIFICATION REQMNTS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Richardson
Sen. Baisley

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill allows for multiple election judges to verify election signatures as a team.

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

- State Expenditures
- 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 allows county clerks to use a team of two bipartisan election judges, rather than a single judge, to verify election signatures and establishes a procedure for settling disputes within the team.

Local Government

To the extent that additional election judges are hired for the signature verification process, election costs will increase for county clerks. The bill is permissive and any costs will depend on county clerks' decisions regarding the use of bipartisan signature review teams for the initial review of signatures. The bill will not affect costs for counties that use an electronic device to review signatures.

State Expenditures

The bill increases expenditures in the Department of State by an indeterminate amount to reimburse counties for additional election costs (described above). The Department of State reimburses counties for 45 percent of their eligible election expenses. Because the bill is permissive, exact state reimbursement costs will depend on county decisions regarding the use of bipartisan signature review teams.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

County Clerks

Secretary of State