



Fiscal Note
Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-061: FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES & CONSTRUCTION OF LAWS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Simpson
Rep. Weinberg; Joseph

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law
Drafting number: LLS 25-0345

Version: Final Fiscal Note
Date: September 5, 2025

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill clarifies which laws passed by the General Assembly do and do not apply to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe.

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

- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government
- Tribal 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 clarifies that laws passed by the General Assembly are presumed not to apply to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe or the Ute Mountain Ute Tribes, their lands, or their members, unless clearly stated in the law or unless a tribal governing body requests inclusion in the law. This presumption does not apply to non-Indians in tribal lands, nor does the presumption exempt tribal members from civil and criminal laws that apply to the municipalities within the Reservations.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes may pass their own laws to adopt any law passed by the General Assembly and may notify the legislative and executive branches of which laws it intends to enforce within its lands.

State Expenditures

To the extent that the legislative and executive branches are notified of laws the tribes will enforce within their lands, workload will increase to record these notices as appropriate. No change in appropriations is required for any agency.

Local and Tribal Governments

If the Southern Ute Indian Tribe or the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe enact legislation that adopts a law passed by the General Assembly, workload will increase for legal representatives of the tribal government to communicate with the executive and legislative branches.

Local governments located near the tribal reservations may have increased workload to communicate with the tribes regarding legislation.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 28, 2025, and took effect on August 6, 2025.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial
Law

Legislative Legal Services
Secretary of State