

# **FISCAL NOTE**

LLS 18-0179 **Date:** January 12, 2018 **Drafting Number:** Rep. Kraft-Tharp; Wist Bill Status: House Judiciary **Prime Sponsors:** 

Fiscal Analyst: Kerry White | 303-866-3469 Sen. Court; Tate

Kerry.White@state.co.us

ATTORNEY GENERAL DECEPTIVE PRACTICE COURT ORDER **Bill Topic:** 

Summary of **Fiscal Impact:**  □ State Revenue

State Expenditure (Minimal)

□ State Transfer

□ TABOR Refund □ Local Government

□ Statutory Public Entity

This bill permits the Attorney General's Office to request court orders to enforce compliance with investigations into potential deceptive trade practices. The bill increases workload and costs for the Attorney General's Office and the trial courts within the Judicial Department. These ongoing impacts are assumed to be minimal.

**Appropriation Summary:** 

No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note** Status:

This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

#### **Summary of Legislation**

Under current law, a court may order compliance with an investigation when it is necessary to terminate or prevent a deceptive trade practice. This bill clarifies that an investigation into a potential deceptive trade practice can be the basis for such court orders.

## **Background**

The Attorney General's Office in the Department of Law and district attorneys prosecute deceptive trade practice cases, which may be civil or criminal in nature. For criminal cases, district attorneys can enforce compliance with an investigation through various means including court rules governing subpoenas, a search warrant, a court order for the production of records, or a grand jury subpoena, among others.

## **State Expenditures**

Beginning in the current FY 2017-18, this bill is anticipated to increase workload and costs for the Department of Law and trial courts within the Judicial Department as described below.

**Department of Law.** The bill expands the basis by which the Attorney General's Office can request court orders to enforce the investigation of potential deceptive trade practice cases. To the extent that this occurs, workload and costs will increase. This analysis assumes that any additional cases pursued will be minimal and the workload and costs can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

**Judicial Department.** To the extent that the Attorney General's Office requests additional court orders, workload for the trial courts will increase. This workload increase is assumed to be minimal and does not require an increase in appropriations.

#### **Effective Date**

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

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

Judicial District Attorneys

Information Technology Law