



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1075: REGULATE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANTS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Garcia Sander; Phillips

Sen. Kirkmeyer; Mullica

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law

Drafting number: LLS 25-0631

Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: May 29, 2025

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill regulates speech-language pathology assistants in the Department of Regulatory Agencies.

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

- Minimal State Workload

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 establishes regulatory requirements for speech-language pathology assistants (SLPA) in the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). It also expands the supervisory requirements and disciplinary actions for certified speech-language pathologists.

Title Protection

Only individuals who possess a bachelor's degree or higher in a related field, complete a SLPA program, and fulfill at least 100 direct hours of supervised clinical practice may use the title of "Speech-Language Pathology Assistant." SLPAs who are authorized by the Department of Education (CDE) to provide services in schools may also use the title, and are not subject to regulation under DORA.

Scope of Practice

SLPAs may not perform speech-language pathology unless under the direction and supervision of a certified speech-language pathologist. Supervising pathologists are required to establish the amount of direct supervision necessary, determine the ratio of supervisors to SLPAs, initiate first contact with patients, and provide feedback to SLPAs on clinical activities.

Additionally, SLPAs are prohibited from performing certain activities, including diagnosing related disorders, developing plans of care, disclosing confidential information, or making referrals, among others.

Disciplinary Action

The bill authorizes DORA to take disciplinary action against supervising speech-language pathologists under certain circumstances.

State Expenditures

Starting in FY 2025-26, the bill minimally increases state expenditures in DORA and the Department of Personnel and Administration, as described below.

Department of Regulatory Agencies

Workload will increase in DORA to update rules, conduct outreach to SLPAs, and collaborate with the Department of Education beginning in FY 2025-26. DORA may require legal services, provided by the Department of Law, which can be accomplished within existing legal services appropriations. Legal counsel is related to rulemaking and ongoing administration of the program.

Department of Personnel and Administration

Workload in the Department of Personnel and Administration may increase for administrative law judges in the Office of Administrative Courts to hear cases challenging disciplinary actions by DORA. This workload is expected to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 5, 2025, and takes effect on August 6, 2025, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial

Regulatory Agencies

Law