

SB 25-031: SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT WIRELESS SERVICES

Prime Sponsors: Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: Senate Business, Labor & Tech.Version: Initial Fiscal NoteDrafting number: LLS 25-0247Date: January 14, 2025

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, which was recommended by the Cell Phone Connectivity Interim Study Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill creates a single point of contact for emergency alert systems and expands the scope of the Colorado Broadband Office to include access to wireless service.

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

State Expenditures

Local Government

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires appropriations totaling \$230,682 to multiple state agencies.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

| | Budget Year | Out Year |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Type of Impact ¹ | FY 2025-26 | FY 2026-27 |
| State Revenue | \$0 | \$0 |
| State Expenditures | \$278,965 | \$322,787 |
| Transferred Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in TABOR Refunds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in State FTE | 2.4 FTE | 3.0 FTE |

¹ Fund sources for these impacts are shown in Table 1A below.

Table 1A State Expenditures

| | Budget Year | Out Year |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Fund Source | FY 2025-26 | FY 2026-27 |
| General Fund | \$230,682 | \$262,432 |
| Cash Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Centrally Appropriated | \$48,283 | \$60,355 |
| Total Expenditures | \$278,965 | \$322,787 |
| Total FTE | 2.4 FTE | 3.0 FTE |

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the Department of Public Safety (CDPS) to develop a single point of contact to ensure statewide coverage of emergency alert systems, provide technical assistance as necessary, and make recommendations to improve wireless alert systems that address language and access needs.

The Colorado Broadband Office in the Office of Information Technology (OIT) offers grants, technical assistance, and other coordinating services to promote broadband access in the state. The bill expands the office's scope to include promoting access to wireless service.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures by \$280,000 in FY 2025-26 and \$320,000 in FY 2026-27. These costs will be incurred in the Office of Information Technology and the Department of Public Safety as shown in Tables 2 to 2B and described in the sections below. Costs are paid from the General Fund.

Table 2
State Expenditures
All Departments

| Total Costs | \$278,965 | \$322,787 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Department of Public Safety | \$116,900 | \$136,880 |
| Office of Information Technology | \$162,065 | \$185,907 |
| Department | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | Out Year FY 2026-27 |

Office of Information Technology

OIT requires \$160,000 in FY 2025-26 and \$190,000 in subsequent years to expand its expertise in wireless services. Costs, which are detailed in Table 2A, are paid from the General Fund.

Staff

The office requires two new positions: a telecommunications specialist and a GIS mapping systems analyst. Standard operating and capital outlay costs are included, and costs are prorated in the first year for the bill's effective date. These staff may be redundant if a separate bill with a similar function is passed; see Technical Note.

Table 2A
State Expenditures
Office of Information Technology

| Cost Component | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | Out Year FY 2026-27 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Personal Services | \$115,928 | \$144,910 |
| Operating Expenses | \$2,048 | \$2,560 |
| Capital Outlay Costs | \$13,340 | \$0 |
| Centrally Appropriated Costs | \$30,749 | \$38,437 |
| Total Costs | \$162,065 | \$185,907 |
| Total FTE | 1.6 FTE | 2.0 FTE |

Department of Public Safety

CDPS requires \$120,000 in FY 2025-26 and \$140,000 in subsequent years to operate the single point of contact. Costs, which are detailed in Table 2B, are paid from the General Fund.

Staff

The single point of contact requires 1.0 FTE beginning in FY 2025-26. In addition to standard operating and capital outlay, the department requires travel costs for the staff to conduct trainings with local jurisdictions. Costs are prorated in the first year for the bill's effective date. If this work leads to policy recommendations that require additional resources, this will be addressed through the annual budget process.

Table 2B State Expenditures Department of Public Safety

| | Budget Year | Out Year |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Cost Component | FY 2025-26 | FY 2026-27 |
| Personal Services | \$80,983 | \$101,229 |
| Operating Expenses | \$1,024 | \$1,280 |
| Travel and Trainings | \$10,689 | \$12,453 |
| Capital Outlay Costs | \$6,670 | \$0 |
| Centrally Appropriated Costs | \$17,534 | \$21,918 |
| Total Costs | \$116,900 | \$136,880 |
| Total FTE | 0.8 FTE | 1.0 FTE |

Centrally Appropriated Costs

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in the expenditure tables above.

Local Government

The bill has an indeterminate impact on local governments. Workload will increase for any jurisdiction that participates in trainings with CDPS; however, workload may decrease if it benefits from the services offered by CDPS' single point of contact.

Technical Note

The Cell Phone Connectivity Interim Study Committee's Bill 2 – Incentives Related to Cell Phone Connectivity (<u>House Bill 25-1080</u>) expands the Colorado Broadband Office's scope to include promoting access to wireless telecommunications services and increases expenditures in OIT by 2.0 FTE Telecommunications Specialist II and GIS Analyst II. These FTE are the same staff identified in this fiscal note. Therefore, if HB 25-1080 is signed into law, this bill no longer requires an appropriation to OIT.

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Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires the following General Fund appropriations:

- \$131,316 to the Office of Information Technology, and 1.6 FTE; and
- \$99,366 to the Department of Public Safety, and 0.8 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Public Safety