

SB 25-205: FIREARM SERIAL NUMBER CHECK PROCEDURE

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Hinrichsen Rep. Espenoza

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

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Summary Information

Overview. The bill allows federal firearm licensee to request a serial number check from a sheriff's office.

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

Minimal State Workload

Local Government

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

	Budget Year	Out Year
Type of Impact	FY 2025-26	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 federal firearms licensees (FFL) to request a serial number check from their county sheriff's office prior to purchasing a firearm from an individual. Sheriff's offices are required to establish a system for these checks by July 1, 2026, respond with results within 72 hours of a request, and may charge a fee to cover its costs.

If an FFL reasonably believes, knows, should know, or becomes aware that a person sold or attempted to sell a firearm is stolen, lost, or involved in an open criminal investigation, the dealer must report the information to law enforcement. Failure to do so within 48 hours may result in administrative penalties by the Department of Revenue.

State Expenditures

Starting in FY 2026-27, to the extent the bill leads to additional administrative investigations and sanctions, the bill will increase workload to the Firearms Dealer Division in the Department of Revenue. The fiscal note assumes high compliance, and that any impact will be minimal.

Local Government

Starting in FY 2026-27, the bill increases revenue and expenditures in sheriff's offices to charge for and to provide serial number checks. The exact increase to a sheriff's office will depend on the number of FFLs within the county and the number of checks requested by FFLs. Additional staff for an office to provide this service ranges from \$81,000 to \$166,050 per FTE per year.

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

Public Safety

Sheriffs

Revenue