



Fiscal Summary

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Measure: Initiative 59 – CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT SENTENCING

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Fiscal Summary of Initiative 59

This fiscal summary, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council, contains a preliminary assessment of the measure's fiscal impact. A full fiscal impact statement for this initiative is or will be available at leg.colorado.gov/bluebook. This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

State Revenue

The measure reduces revenue to the Offender Surcharge Cash Fund by at least an estimated \$45,000 in FY 2026-27 and \$160,000 in FY 2027-28, due to individuals being sentenced to the Department of Corrections in lieu of probation.

State Expenditures

The measure increases state expenditures by at least \$1.7 million in FY 2027-28 and increasing amounts in future fiscal years, due to additional offenders being sentenced to the Department of Corrections rather than probation. For the five-year period from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-21, prison costs are estimated to increase by at least \$16.1 million. The measure will also reduce workload in the Division of Probation in the Judicial Department.

Local Government

By mandating a sentence to the DOC, the bill may increase workload and costs for district attorneys to prosecute longer cases.

Economic Impacts

Incarcerating additional individuals in state prison will reduce workforce participation, which may reduce economic activity from labor and spending and may increase government spending on prisons and social welfare programs. To the extent that the initiative decreases criminal activity or decreases the number of child sexual assault, individuals otherwise affected by such crimes may experience improved economic outcomes.