



Fiscal Note
Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-052: RAILROAD INVESTIGATIVE REPORT CONFIDENTIALITY

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Winter F.; Hinrichsen
Rep. Valdez; Lindsay

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law
Drafting number: LLS 25-0234

Version: Final Fiscal Note
Date: July 16, 2025

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill, which was recommended by the Transportation Legislation Review Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill repeals the confidentiality requirement for investigative reports of railroads, with exceptions for certain ongoing investigations and security information.

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 2024-25	Out Year FY 2025-26
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 repeals the requirement that investigative reports of railroads made for the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) be kept confidential, and gives the PUC authority to create rules making certain ongoing investigations and security information confidential. These rules cannot make final reports of investigations confidential and must require timely release of information for the protection of public safety.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload for the PUC staff to develop new rules on investigative reports of railroads to comply with the bill's requirements and respond to a potential increase in Colorado Open Records Act requests. In addition, the PUC requires legal services from the Department of Law to review up to 30 investigative reports annually for personally identifiable information and security sensitive information. This increase in workload and legal services can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 20, 2025, and takes effect on August 6, 2025, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Regulatory Agencies