

## **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Fiscal Note**

LLS 24-0679 **Drafting Number:** February 28, 2024 Date: **Prime Sponsors:** Rep. Hamrick; Frizell **Bill Status:** House Trans., Hous. & Local Govt. Colin Gaiser | 303-866-2677 Fiscal Analyst: colin.gaiser@coleg.gov **Bill Topic:** LOCAL GOVERNMENT UTILITY RELOCATION IN RIGHT-OF-WAY Summary of ☐ State Transfer **Fiscal Impact:** ☐ TABOR Refund ☐ Statutory Public Entity The bill requires local governments performing road improvement projects to enter into agreements with utility companies for utility relocation. It may increase state and local revenue and expenditures on an ongoing basis. **Appropriation** No appropriation is required. **Summary: Fiscal Note** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill. Status:

### **Summary of Legislation**

The bill requires local governments to notify affected utility companies of a road improvement project and establishes guidelines for notifications from local governments. Local governments and utility companies must enter into an agreement regarding any utility relocation, which will include information on the scope of the relocation, who will perform the relocation, a coordinated relocation schedule, and compensation if a company delays relocation work. In lieu of an agreement, a utility company may also deliver a signed and executed clearance letter. Nothing in the bill alters the terms of any franchises or licenses granted in accordance with state law.

### **State Revenue and Expenditures**

The bill may increase revenue in the Judicial Department due to a possible increase in civil case filings, and may increase workload for any violations that result in cases brought to the trial courts. This fiscal note assumes violations will be rare, but cases may be complex and require significant staff time to process. Since violations and court actions are assumed to be minimal, no appropriation is required.

#### **Local Government**

The bill may impact local government workload, expenditures, and revenue on an ongoing basis. Workload may increase for government staff needed to develop and review utility relocation agreements. Municipally owned utility companies may incur expenses if they delay the schedule of a project and are forced to pay for costs associated with the delay. In addition, the bill may increase revenue for local governments that receive any utility company payments caused by project delays.

### **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**

Counties Municipalities Local Affairs
Transportation Judicial Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the <u>General Assembly website</u>.