

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

LLS 18-0638 Date: July 31, 2018 **Drafting Number:** Bill Status: Signed into Law Rep. Catlin; McLachlan **Prime Sponsors:**

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□ TABOR Refund

AQUIFER STORAGE-AND-RECOVERY PLANS Bill Topic:

Summary of □ State Revenue **Fiscal Impact:**

 State Expenditure (minimal) □ Local Government □ Statutory Public Entity

□ State Transfer

The bill requires the Ground Water Commission to promulgate rules for applying for approval of aquifer storage-and-recovery plans. The bill increases state workload

by a minimal amount on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary:

No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status:

The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the Ground Water Commission in the Department of Natural Resources to promulgate rules for applying for approval of aquifer storage-and-recovery plans within the boundaries of a designated groundwater basin. The commission is required to publish a completed application and hold a hearing if an objection is filed. The commission is required to approve an aguifer storage-and-recovery plan if it meets both statutory and commission requirements. The commission must require an aquifer storage and recovery plan that includes existing wells to comply with all rules governing those wells.

Background

The Colorado Ground Water Commission is a regulatory body authorized by the General Assembly to manage and control ground water resources within eight designated ground water basins in eastern Colorado where users rely primarily on ground water as their source of water. The commission is authorized to issue large capacity well permits, changes in water rights and replacement wells, and to adopt rules and policies.

State Expenditures

This bill will increase workload for the Ground Water Commission to promulgate rules and to review and administer aguifer storage-and-recovery plans. The water court in the Judicial Branch may have a minimal increase in workload to hear appeals from the commission in the future. All workload increases can be addressed within existing appropriations.

HB 18-1199

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on April 9, 2018, and takes effect August 8, 2018, if no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology Judicial Law Natural Resources