

#### SB 25-065: INDEMINIFICATION OF PEACE OFFICERS' CRIM CONDUCT

**Prime Sponsors:** 

Sen. Baisley Rep. Richardson

**Bill Outcome:** Postponed Indefinitely **Drafting number:** LLS 25-0589

**Fiscal Analyst:** 

Aaron Carpenter, 303-866-4918 aaron.carpenter@coleg.gov

**Version:** Final Fiscal Note **Date:** June 10, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill. This bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate State and Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee on February 11, 2025; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

### **Summary Information**

**Overview.** The bill would have clarified that a public entity does not have to satisfy any liability of the judgment or settlement arising from a criminal violation of a peace officer.

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

State Expenditures

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 clarifies that a public entity does not have to indemnify a peace office or have to satisfy any portion of the judgment or settlement from a claim arising from a criminal violation unless the peace officer's employer was a causal factor in the violation.

# **Background**

Currently, there is a case filed with the Colorado Court of Appeals to determine if statute currently requires a public entity to satisfy any portion of the judgment or settlement from a claim arising from a peace officer's criminal violation. This case is challenging the Fremont County District Court's interpretation of Section 13-21-131 (4)(a), C.R.S.

# **State and Local Government Expenditures**

If a court finds that public entities do need to satisfy part of a settlement against a peace officer, then the bill will decrease costs to state and local entities that hire peace officers. The fiscal note assumes that the bill clarifies current law and will minimally impact state agency liability.

#### **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**

Corrections Municipalities

Counties Natural Resources

District Attorneys Personnel

Higher Education Public Safety

Human Services RTD

Judicial Revenue

Law Sheriffs