



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

SB 26-013: EXCLUDE COHABITATION FROM ELEMENTS OF BIGAMY

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Hinrichsen

Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: Senate Judiciary**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0484**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** January 14, 2026

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill excludes cohabitation from the elements of the crime of bigamy, a class 2 misdemeanor.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis starting FY 2026-27:

- Minimal State Revenue
- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
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 removes references to cohabitation from the elements of the crime of bigamy, a class 2 misdemeanor.

Comparable Crime Analysis

Legislative Council Staff is required to include certain information in the fiscal note for any bill that creates a new crime, changes the classification of an existing crime, or creates a new factual basis for an existing crime. The following section outlines crimes that are comparable to the offense in this bill and discusses assumptions on future rates of criminal convictions resulting from the bill.

Prior Conviction Data and Assumptions

This bill creates a new factual basis for the existing offense of bigamy, a class 2 misdemeanor, by removing cohabitation from the elements of the crime. From FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25, one Black male was sentenced and convicted for this offense; therefore, the fiscal note assumes that there will be a minimal or no impact on criminal case filings or convictions for this offense under the bill. Visit the [Fiscal Notes website](#) for more information about criminal justice costs in fiscal notes.

State Revenue and Expenditures

Based on the assumptions above, this analysis assumes that there will be a minimal impact on state revenue and expenditures. Under the bill, criminal fines and court fees, which are subject to TABOR, may decrease by a minimal amount. Similarly, any decrease in workload and costs for the Judicial Department, including the trial courts, Division of Probation, and agencies that provide representation to indigent persons, are assumed to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

Local Government

Similar to the state, it is expected that any workload or cost decreases for district attorneys to prosecute fewer offenses, or for county jails to imprison fewer individuals under the bill will be minimal. District attorney offices and county jails are funded by counties.

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

District Attorneys

Public Defender

Judicial