



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1016: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST PRESCRIBE MED EQUIP

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Stewart K.

Sen. Michaelson Jenet; Rich

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law

Drafting number: LLS 25-0629

Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: June 24, 2025

Fiscal note status: This final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill authorizes a licensed occupational therapist to prescribe durable medical equipment.

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

- State Expenditures

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year 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 authorizes a licensed occupational therapist to directly recommend and prescribe durable medical equipment (DME) to a patient without requesting the prescription from a licensed physician. The occupational therapist must consult with the patient about payment options for the DME.

Assumptions

The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) currently reimburses DME for members under fee-for-service and managed care models, based on medical necessity. This fiscal note assumes that the requirement that DME meet medical necessity will remain in place, and that overall demand for DME will not increase under the bill. However, should this requirement change, Medicaid costs in HCPF could increase from additional providers recommending and prescribing non-medically necessary DME.

State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2025-26, workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies may increase to make rules and conduct outreach regarding the scope of practice for licensed occupational therapists. The bill may also minimally increase workload in the Office of Administrative Courts in the Department of Personnel and Administration to handle any additional disciplinary proceedings against licensed occupational therapists prescribing durable medical equipment. This workload is expected to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 31, 2025, and takes effect on August 6, 2025, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Health Care Policy and Financing
Regulatory Agencies

Personnel

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 [General Assembly website](#).