



Fiscal Note
Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-209: OFFENDER REFUSE COMM CORRECTIONS PLACEMENT

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Amabile; Kirkmeyer
Rep. Sirota; Taggart

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Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, which was recommended by the Joint Budget Committee as part of the FY 2025-26 Long Bill budget package.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill allows an offender to refuse placement in a community corrections program after referral.

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

- Minimal State Expenditures
- Local Government

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

Under current law, offenders sentenced to the Department of Corrections (DOC) may be referred for placement in a community corrections program unless they have an active felony warrant or the offender has refused community placement. The bill moves the decision point of the offender to refuse placement from before referral to after they have been accepted by a community corrections program.

Background

Generally, referrals to placement in a community corrections program from the DOC occur as part of an offender's transition out of imprisonment.

In the [FY 2025-26 figure setting document](#) for the DOC, Joint Budget Committee (JBC) Staff described anecdotal reports that some offenders preemptively reject referral for placement in a community corrections program out of a concern that they will be rejected upon review and miss the opportunity for placement. By moving the decision point of the offender to after they have been offered a placement, JBC Staff indicated this change might result in more referrals from the DOC and placements in community corrections programs.

State Expenditures

If the bill results in more community corrections placements and thus shorter terms of supervision by the DOC, then the bill will decrease state expenditures since generally a placement in a community corrections program is less expensive for the state than supervision by the DOC. The fiscal note assumes that any change in appropriations required for caseload changes in the DOC or community corrections programs will be addressed through the annual budget process.

Local Government

Similar to the state, if the bill results in more placements in community corrections programs administered by local governments, then workload and expenditures for these local governments may increase by a minimal amount.

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

Judicial

Joint Budget Committee Staff

Public Safety

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](#).