



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

SB 25-210: REPEAL DOC APPROPRIATION REQUIREMENT

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Amabile; Kirkmeyer
Rep. Bird; Sirota

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Fiscal note status: This 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 removes the requirement that the General Assembly include a five-year appropriation for bills that increase periods of imprisonment in the Department of Corrections.

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

From 1994 to 2022, state law required the General Assembly to consider the need to appropriate funds to the Department of Corrections (DOC) to cover increased operating, capital construction, and parole costs for five fiscal years when legislation is estimated to increase periods of imprisonment in state correctional facilities. In 2022, the General Assembly suspended that requirement for three years until July 1, 2025. This bill permanently repeals this requirement.

State Expenditure

The bill does not directly impact state expenditures; total annual appropriations to the DOC are based on the annual prison population forecast and adjusted through the annual budget process. By removing the requirement that the General Assembly appropriate five years of funds for bills that increase incarceration, the bill will shift the timing of appropriations and the change the process for adjusting annual appropriations to the DOC based on the actual prison population. This process will minimally reduce workload for the DOC and Joint Budget Committee Staff, who will no longer be required to adjust annual appropriations to account for five-year appropriations made in prior years. No change in appropriations is required.

The requirement that LCS provide estimates of the long-term fiscal impacts for any bill which may result in a net increase or decrease in periods of imprisonment is not repealed, and workload for LCS—as well as the DOC and the Department of Public Safety, which provide average length of stay data to LCS—remains unchanged.

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

Joint Budget Committee Staff

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](#).