



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1082: QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS DEATH CERTIFICATES

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Weinberg; Brown
Sen. Pelton R.; Michaelson Jenet

Fiscal Analyst:

Brendan Fung, 303-866-4781
brendan.fung@coleg.gov

Published for: House SCMVA

Drafting number: LLS 25-0259

Version: Initial Fiscal Note

Date: January 22, 2025

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill expands the types of professionals who may complete a death certificate to include physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas in FY 2025-26 only:

- State Expenditures

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$25,000 to the Department of Public Health and Environment.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (Cash Funds)	\$25,000	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

Current law permits coroners, medical examiners, forensic pathologists, and other “qualified individuals” to determine a cause of death and complete a certificate of death. Under state rules, “qualified individuals” include a physician or Chief Medical Officer of the institution where the death occurred. The bill expands the definition of “qualified individuals” to include physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses, in addition to physicians and the Chief Medical Officers. It also requires these individuals to register with the electronic death registration system prior to signing a death certificate.

Background

The Vital Records Office in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is responsible for collecting data and verifying the accuracy of the registration of qualifying events, including births and deaths. Upon determination of a cause of death, qualified individuals complete and sign the medical certification and file it in the electronic death registration system used by the office.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in CDPHE by \$25,000 in FY 2025-26, paid from the Vital Statistics Records Cash Fund. This one-time cost is for the CDPHE to contract with a vendor to modify its electronic death registration system and add physician assistants and advanced nurse practitioners to the database. Actual costs will be determined through the contracting process.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$25,000 from the Vital Statistics Records Cash Fund to the Department of Public Health and Environment.

State and Local Government Contacts

County Coroners
Law

Public Health and Environment

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](#).