

SB 25-199: SUSPEND LEGISLATIVE INTERIM ACTIVITIES

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Lundeen; Rodriguez Rep. McCluskie; Pugliese

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Fiscal Analyst:

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Executive Committee of the Legislative Council.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill directs the Legislative Council not to prioritize any interim committee or task forces, and suspends the activity and reporting requirements of several committees, for the 2025 interim.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas, primarily in FY 2025-26, with certain impacts continuing in future fiscal years:

State Expenditures

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a reduction in appropriations of \$272,355 from the Legislative Department.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

	Budget Year	Out Year
Type of Impact	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (General Fund)	-\$272,355	-\$6,889
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	-2.6 FTE	-0.1 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill directs the Legislative Council not to prioritize any interim committee or task forces for the 2025 interim. Further, for any interim committee that does meet, the bill limits them to requesting that no more than five bills to be drafted and recommending no more than three bills for introduction in the 2026 regular session.

The bill also suspends all meetings, trips, bill recommendations, and reporting requirements during the 2025 interim for the following committees:

- Colorado Health Insurance Exchange Oversight Committee;
- Legislative Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Committee;
- Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Colorado Jail Standards;
- Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy and Task Force;
- Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee;
- Pension Review Committee and Subcommittee;
- Sales and Use Tax Simplification Task Force; and
- Statewide Healthcare Review Committee.

The bill removes the ability of the Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) Review Committee to request legislation.

In addition, the COYAC Review Committee, the Capital Development Committee, and the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems are limited in their travel and member reimbursements.

Background

The following committees will meet in the 2025 interim:

- Artificial Intelligence Impact Task Force
- Black Coloradan Racial Equity Study
- Capital Development Committee
- Capitol Building Advisory Committee
- Colorado Commission on Uniform State Laws
- Colorado Youth Advisory Council and Review Committee
- Committee on Legal Services
- Executive Committee of the Legislative Council
- Joint Budget Committee
- Joint Technology Committee

- Legislative Audit Committee
- Legislative Council
- Legislative Oversight Committee
 Concerning the Treatment of Persons
 with Behavioral Health Disorders in the
 Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems
- Statutory Revision Committee
- Transportation Legislation Review Committee
- Water Resources and Agriculture Review Committee
- Wildfire Matters Review Committee

State Expenditures

The bill decreases state General Fund expenditures in the Legislative Department by about \$272,000 in FY 2025-26 and \$7,000 in FY 2026-27 and ongoing. Expenditure reductions are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Legislative Department

Cost Component ¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
Personal Services	-\$183,176	-\$6,889
Operating Expenses	-\$512	\$0
Capital Outlay	-\$2,000	\$0
Legislator Reimbursement and Per Diem	-\$71,948	\$0
Travel Costs	-\$14,719	\$0
Total Costs	-\$272,355	-\$6,889
Total FTE	-2.6 FTE	-0.1 FTE

Additional detail for staffing costs (personal services, operating and capital outlay), legislator per diem and expense reimbursement, and committee travel are shown in Tables 3 and 4 below.

Staffing Costs

The bill reduces the required staffing in the Legislative Department by 2.6 FTE in FY 2025-26 and 0.1 FTE in FY 2026-27 as a result of the suspension of certain interim committees. This includes a reduction of LCS staff support for meetings and committee research (1.3 FTE), and OLLS staff to draft legislation (1.3 FTE). Personal services expenditure reductions reflect the staff appropriated for each interim committee. As detailed in Tables 3 and 4, suspending some committees will only reduce per diem and legislator reimbursement, but not personal services, as the agencies have not received appropriations to staff those committees. Reductions to operating expenses and capital outlay costs for OLLS are also identified above.

Legislator Reimbursement and Per Diem

Legislator reimbursements for committee activates are expected to decrease by about \$72,000 in FY 2025-26. Reductions are based on a per diem of \$111.95 for each legislator and travel reimbursements of \$124 per member per meeting at the capitol and \$219 for meetings not at the capitol.

Travel Costs

The suspension of the Statewide Healthcare Review Committee and limits on Capital Development Committee travel reduces travel costs for committee members and legislative staff by about \$15,000 in FY 2025-26 only.

Table 3 FY 2025-26 Committee Expenditure Reductions

Committee	Staff Costs	Per Diem/ Expenses	Committee Travel	FTE
Capital Development Committee	\$0	-\$7,312	-\$7,583	0.0 FTE
Colorado Health Insurance Exchange Oversight	\$0	-\$2,459	\$0	0.0 FTE
Colorado Youth Advisory Council	\$0	-\$1,966	\$0	0.0 FTE
Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee	-\$6,889	-\$3,688	\$0	-0.1 FTE
Leg. Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery	\$0	-\$983	\$0	0.0 FTE
Leg. Oversight Committee Concerning Colorado Jail Standards	-\$36,618	-\$4,425	\$0	-0.5 FTE
Leg. Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy & Task Force	-\$65,904	-\$7,376	\$0	-0.9 FTE
Leg. Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems	\$0	-\$8,851	\$0	0.0 FTE
Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders	-\$38,618	-\$14,751	\$0	-0.5 FTE
Pension Review Commission	\$0	-\$9,834	\$0	0.0 FTE
Pension Review Subcommittee	\$0	-\$3,934	\$0	0.0 FTE
Sales and Use Tax Simplification Task Force	-\$30,948	-\$3,934	\$0	-0.5 FTE
Statewide Healthcare Review Committee	-\$6,711	-\$2,437	-\$7,136	-0.1 FTE
FY 2025-26 Total	-\$185,688	-\$71,948	\$14,719	-2.6 FTE

Table 4
FY 2026-27 Committee Expenditure Reductions

Committee	Staff Costs	Per Diem/ Expenses	Committee Travel	FTE
Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee	-\$6,889	\$0	\$0	-0.1 FTE
FY 2026-27 Total	-\$6,889	\$0	\$0	-0.1 FTE

Technical Note

Initially, the bill eliminated a requirement that Legislative Council Staff contract with nonprofit organization to facilitate COYAC, and Senate Bill 25-188, the Legislative Appropriations Act, already accounted for a \$45,000 reduction in appropriations from eliminating this contract. However, this bill was amended by the Senate to remove the provision eliminating the contract and to add back in the \$45,000 appropriation for the contract for FY 2025-26. However, because this bill does not currently make any adjustments to the COYAC contractor, the fiscal note is not accounting for it and this funding adjustment to restore the contractor funding could instead be made in SB 25-188, rather than in this bill. Regardless of where the appropriation is made, the Legislature requires \$45,000 General Fund, whether in this bill or SB 25-188, but not both, to support the COYAC contractor.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

Current Appropriation

For FY 2025-26, the bill currently includes reductions in General Fund appropriations totaling \$267,807 to the Legislative Department. This appropriation reflects the <u>initial fiscal note</u> estimate of a reduction of \$312,807 General Fund, plus the addition of \$45,000 General Fund amended into the bill by the Senate (see Technical Note above).

Required Appropriation

As amended, the bill requires the following reductions in General Fund appropriation totaling \$272,355 to the Legislative Department, including:

- a reduction of \$104,161 from Legislative Council Staff and a reduction of 1.3 FTE;
- a reduction of \$96,246 from the Office of Legislative Legal Services and a reduction of 1.3 FTE; and
- a reduction of \$71,948 from the General Assembly for legislator per diem and reimbursement.

State and Local Government Contacts

Legislative Department