

## Colorado Legislative Council Staff

### HB16-1146

# **FISCAL NOTE**

FISCAL IMPACT: ⊠ State ⊠ Local □ Statutory Public Entity □ Conditional	□ No Fiscal Impact

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**BILL TOPIC: BORN ALIVE INFANT PROTECTION ACT** 

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018	
State Revenue			
State Expenditures	Potential increase.		
Appropriation Required: None.			
Future Year Impacts: Potential state expenditure increase.			

#### **Summary of Legislation**

This bill defines the term "born alive" as any human being completely expelled or extracted from its mother, at any stage of development, that has a beating heart, a pulsation of the umbilical cord, or movement of its voluntary muscles, regardless of whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the expulsion or extraction resulted from labor, cesarean section, or induced abortion. The bill includes within the definitions of "child," "human being," "individual," and "person" any human infant born alive at any stage of development.

#### **Background**

The federal Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002 extends legal protection to an infant born alive after a birth, cesarean section, or induced abortion. Under current law in Colorado, a newborn infant is considered a person.

#### **State Expenditures**

To the extent that individuals challenge state laws concerning the interpretation of the born alive definition, workload and legal service costs may increase for state agencies. The courts may have additional workload to hear any cases arising from these actions. While the fiscal note is unable to estimate how many potential cases could be brought concerning these matters or predict their outcome, it is assumed that the courts and state agencies can continue to operate within existing appropriations. Any costs, if they occur, will be addressed through the annual budget process.

#### **Local Government Impact**

Similar to the State Expenditure section above, local governments may potentially be challenged in court regarding the interpretation and application of the born alive definition. This may potentially increase workload and legal service costs. Overall, the fiscal impact of this measure on local governments is assumed to be minimal.

#### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 10, 2016, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 11, 2016, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

District Attorneys
Counties
Higher Education
Office of Information Technology

Cities
Health Care Policy and Financing
Judicial
Public Health & Environment