

Colorado Legislative Council Staff
**STATE and LOCAL
 FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 03-0040
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Stafford
 Sen. Cairns

Date: January 17, 2003
Bill Status: House State Affairs
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TITLE: CONCERNING THE REQUIRED DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL MOTTO IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN THE STATE.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2003/2004	FY 2004/2005
State Revenues		
General Fund		
State Expenditures		
General Fund	\$226,300	
Cash Fund	173,700	
FTE Position Change	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
Other State Impact: None		
Effective Date: 90 days after adjournment (August 5,2003) unless a referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2003/2004:		
\$226,300 General Fund		
\$173,700 various cash funds		
Local Government Impact: Local governments will be responsible for displaying the national motto on their buildings. The national motto must also be displayed in each classroom of every public school in the state.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill directs the chief administrative officer of any state institution, public school, or political subdivision of the state to display the national motto, "In God We Trust", followed by "The National Motto of the United States of America" on the second line of the display, in each public building and in each public school classroom in Colorado. The moto display must be engraved on a plaque made of permanent, nonporous material such as wood, plastic, stone, or metal plate, or framed in a glass-encased picture frame. The bill requires that the display shall be no smaller than 10 inches by 14 inches and shall be easily read by the average person from a distance of 20 feet.

The bill requires the chief administrative officer of each political subdivision in the state to comply with displaying the national motto within 60 days after the effective date of the bill. The bill authorizes a political subdivision of the state to accept cash or in-kind donations to comply with the provisions of the bill.

State Expenditures

All state departments were contacted regarding the fiscal impact of the bill. At the state level, there are approximately 4,000 buildings that would require the display to be posted, including all buildings at each public college and university, and buildings in state parks. Of these structures, 2,263 buildings are supported through the state General Fund revenues. The remaining buildings are supported through a combination of cash funds.

The departments indicate that the cost of obtaining and displaying the signs range from zero to \$200 per sign. Assuming that a reasonable cost (including installation time) to provide an engraved sign on each of the state's buildings is \$100, the total cost to the state is projected to be approximately \$226,300 General Fund and \$173,700 from various cash funds.

Local Government Impact

The bill requires that the national motto be conspicuously displayed in each public building under the authority and control of every local government in the state. In addition, the national motto must be displayed in each classroom of a public school in the state. The number of local government public buildings and the number of classrooms in public schools in Colorado has not been estimated. The cost to local governments and school districts will be similar to those costs identified for the state.

State Appropriations

The fiscal note implies that a total appropriation in the amount of \$226,300 General Fund will be required in FY 2003-04 in order to implement the provisions of the bill. In addition, appropriations of \$173,700 will be required from various cash funds.

Departments Contacted

All Departments