



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**Bill 1**

**FISCAL NOTE**

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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 16-0270

**Date:** October 27, 2015

**Prime Sponsor(s):**

**Bill Status:** Wildfire Matters Review Interim  
Committee Bill Request

**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**BILL TOPIC:** ADOPTION OF WILDFIRE MITIGATION CODES

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	<u>Workload increase</u>	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill is **recommended by the Wildfire Matters Review Committee**. No later than January 1, 2017, the bill requires that counties and municipalities that have adopted a building code, also adopt and enforce a wildfire mitigation code. The wildfire mitigation code must be either the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code or another code that substantially conforms to the international code.

The adopted wildfire mitigation code will apply to the construction of, and any renovations or additions to, commercial and residential buildings located within an unincorporated area of a county also located within a fire hazard area, or within municipalities containing fire hazard areas within their boundaries. Further, the building code is only applicable to a building for which a permit application is received subsequent to the adoption of the code.

At least 90 days before adoption of the code, or adopting amendments to the code, the local government is required to submit a copy of the proposed code or amendment to the Division of Fire Prevention and Control in the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The division is required to make a determination and inform the local government whether the code or amendment is sufficient, or require modifications in order to obtain division approval.

**State Expenditures**

The bill increases workload in the DPS to review and approve wildfire mitigation codes submitted by local governments. The anticipated workload increase will depend on the number of local governments that will now be required to develop and submit wildfire mitigation codes; however, the increase is anticipated to be manageable within existing resources and no additional appropriation is required.

**Local Government Impact**

The bill requires that all local governments that have adopted building codes also adopt a wildfire mitigation code. Counties and municipalities will have increased administrative and legal costs for developing and enforcing wildfire codes.

There are currently 269 municipalities, 62 counties, and 2 city and counties in Colorado; however, the Division of Local Government in the Department of Local Affairs does not have an inventory of which counties and which municipalities have adopted building codes, or which of these also contain fire hazard areas within their respective jurisdictions. This fiscal note will be revised as additional information becomes available.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties

Local Affairs

Municipalities

Public Safety