


Colorado Legislative Council Staff
LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT
No State General Fund Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 04-0017
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Stafford
 Sen. Lamborn

Date: January 5, 2004
Bill Status: House Information and Technology
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TITLE: CONCERNING ENHANCED PROTECTION FOR CHILD USERS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES FROM HARMFUL MATERIALS ON THE INTERNET.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2004/2005	FY 2005/2006
State Revenues General Fund		
State Expenditures General Fund		
FTE Position Change	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
Other State Impact: None		
Effective Date: July 1, 2004		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2004/2005: None		
Local Government Impact: Requires public libraries to install and maintain computer Internet filters, subject to available budget.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires the governing body of each public library by December 31, 2004, to adopt, implement, and enforce a policy that includes a technology protection measure for each library computer that allows for access to the Internet by a minor. The bill requires the measure to block or filter Internet access to visual depictions that are deemed obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The bill specifies certain criteria by which a duly authorized person may be allowed to temporarily disable the measure.

The bill does not require any action on the part of any public library where no moneys exist in the library's budget for such a measure, or the library is unable to acquire such a measure free of charge.

Local Government Impact

Table 1 provides a summary of estimated hardware and software costs for public libraries to implement and maintain computer Internet filters, based upon the following assumptions:

- the definition of "public library" does not include libraries located in public or private schools or institutions of higher education;
- the bill requires no additional action on the part of any public library already in compliance as of July 1, 2004;
- libraries with a large number of networked computers may use "proxy" hardware and software applications;
- libraries with a small number of computers may use software applications installed on each workstation;
- all affected libraries will incur additional on-going operating costs for annual subscription and maintenance fees;
- all affected libraries will incur additional staff costs (not included in Table 1) to administer the workstations, and to provide additional customer services on demand to activate and de-activate the measure; and
- all costs are subject to the availability of sufficient budget.

Table 1. Public Library Internet Filter Costs			
	Large Public Libraries (>25,000 population)	Small Public Libraries (<25,000 population)	Total
Public Libraries	26	89	115
Service Area Population	3,812,554	540,976	4,353,530
Public Access Internet Computers	1,694	632	2,326
Implementation Costs	\$11,000 per library	\$39.95 per station	
Total Implementation Costs	\$286,000	\$25,248	\$311,248
On-going Annual Costs	\$4,700 per library	\$39.95 per station	
Total On-going Annual Costs	\$122,200	\$25,248	\$147,448

State Appropriations

No new state appropriations will be required for FY 2004-05.

Departments Contacted

Local Affairs Education