



Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
NO FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 09-0996**Date:** April 8, 2009**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Newell
Rep. Levy**Bill Status:** Senate Judiciary**Fiscal Analyst:** Sara McPhee (303-866-4782)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER UNDER SPECIFIED CIRCUMSTANCES TO PREVENT A PERSON FROM COMMUNICATING WITH SOMEONE OTHER THAN A PEACE OFFICER BY BLOCKING COMMUNICATIONS.

Summary of Legislation

Current statute allows a member of law enforcement to order phone lines to be cut off in an area if he or she has reason to believe that there is a hostage situation. This bill amends the statute to allow law enforcement to cut off phone lines, Internet access, and to block cellular phone reception if he or she has reason to believe that there is a hostage situation. This authority also applies if a person has barricaded him or herself into a structure without a hostage. The bill becomes law upon signature of the Governor or upon becoming law without his signature.

Assessment

This bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. It updates the current statute to reflect the communication technologies available today. Hostage situations happen rarely and, as such, this bill will not increase the resources needed for law enforcement.

Departments Contacted

Public Safety