



FINAL
FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 09-0996**Date:** June 17, 2009**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Newell
Rep. Levy**Bill Status:** Signed into Law**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.

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. Internet and telecommunications providers that comply with this law are not held liable for any action that results from the cutting off of communication. The bill was signed by the Governor and became law on June 1, 2009.

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