

  
*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*  
**STATE**  
**FISCAL IMPACT**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 08-0976

**Date:** March 11, 2008

**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Gordon

**Bill Status:** Senate SVMA

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Ward (303-866-5834)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2008-2009	FY 2009-2010
<b>State Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>State Expenditures</b> General Fund	\$0	at least \$50,000
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> August 6, 2008, assuming the General Assembly adjourns May 7, 1008, as scheduled and no referendum petition is filed.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2008-2009:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

The bill directs the General Assembly to use certain factors in creating congressional districts beyond those factors already specified in law for court review of redistricting plans. Among other things, the bill requires that the General Assembly:

- create competitive districts to the extent practicable;
- conduct at least 12 public hearings throughout the state on proposed redistricting plans;
- make redistricting data and mapmaking tools available to the public in at least one location in each congressional district; and
- allow for the submission of redistricting maps, recommendations, and inquiries from the public.

**State Expenditures**

The bill will increase state expenditures above those already anticipated for the next redistricting cycle, mainly from the requirement to provide mapmaking tools in each congressional district. At a minimum, this requirement will cost \$50,000 to establish an internet-based program allowing anyone with access to the internet to draw plans. However, bandwidth limitations may restrict the amount of data available to the public in drawing districts compared to the data used by

the legislature. Costs would be significantly higher to provide and maintain in each congressional district a separate computer that is loaded with the exact same software and data used by the legislature. In order for the system to be available in time for redistricting in 2011, costs would be incurred in FY 2009-10. All costs would be paid from the General Fund.

By requiring at least 12 public hearings, including at least one in each congressional district, the bill may also increase costs in FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12 for legislative per diem and other committee-related expenses, including travel. An 8-member interim committee considering congressional redistricting in 2001 met 8 times, traveling to cities in 5 congressional districts including Pueblo, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, and Denver. This bill would require 4 more meetings than were held in 2001, including 3 more in the Denver metropolitan area. Interim committee costs are calculated based on \$159 per member per day in per diem and expenses, plus staff and facility costs. An 8-member committee meeting 12 times across the state would cost at least \$25,000. Costs for redrawing congressional district boundaries, including costs associated with interim study activities, are traditionally paid from the General Fund through an appropriation to the Legislative Department.

### **Departments Contacted**

Legislature