



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

**Drafting Number:** LLS 09-0316  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Peniston  
 Sen. Foster

**Date:** January 15, 2009  
**Bill Status:** House Local Government  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Harry Zeid (303-866-4753)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING CAT IDENTIFICATION.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2009-2010</b>	<b>FY 2010-2011</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>State Expenditures</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> August 4, 2009, assuming the General Assembly adjourns sine die as scheduled on May 6, 2009, unless a referendum petition is filed.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2009-2010:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> See the Local Government Impact section.		

**Summary of Legislation**

HB09-1019 requires the owner of a cat that is four months or older to ensure that the cat has a form of identification on or in its body at all times. The bill applies to non-feral cats in cities with a population greater than 100,000. Acceptable forms of identification include a durable tag affixed to the cat's collar or harness, or a surgically implanted microchip that is registered with a national database. With specified exceptions, the bill makes it unlawful for any person to remove a cat's identification. The bill also requires that an impounded at-large or roaming cat without proper identification not be released to the owner until the owner complies with the identification requirements established in the bill.

The bill allows each city with a population greater than 100,000 to enforce the provisions of the bill and to establish fines for each violation. Fine revenue will be remitted to the city clerk where the violation occurred. Fine revenue is to be used for enforcing animal control laws and ordinances or for programs to house and care for cats.

**Local Government Impact**

Implementation of the bill in cities of population greater than 100,000 may result in increased costs for code enforcement, legal expenses, and other administrative activities. These costs may be offset by the fees imposed on and collected for code violations. On balance, the local fiscal impact of the bill for affected municipalities cannot be determined.

The State Demography Office in the Division of Local Government (Department of Local Affairs) provides municipal population estimates. The most recent data for year-end 2007 (published November, 2008) indicates that there are ten cities in Colorado with population greater than 100,000. These are: Denver (596,000); Colorado Springs (394,000); Aurora (315,000); Lakewood (143,000); Fort Collins (134,000); Thornton (112,000); Westminster (108,000); Arvada (106,000); Pueblo (106,000); and Centennial (101,000). As of year-end 2007, Boulder ranks 11th at 99,000.

**Departments Contacted**

Local Affairs