

NO FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0037**Date:** April 9, 2010**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Lambert
Sen. Sandoval**Bill Status:** House SVMA**Fiscal Analyst:** Kerry White (303-866-3469)

TITLE: SUBMITTING TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE VIII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, CONCERNING A PROCESS FOR TEMPORARILY MOVING THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT IN A DISASTER EMERGENCY THAT SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECTS THE ABILITY OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT TO OPERATE IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REQUIRING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE IN A TEMPORARY MEETING LOCATION DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR AND AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO DETERMINE BY LAW A TEMPORARY LOCATION FOR THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE.

Summary of Legislation

This concurrent resolution submits a ballot measure to amend the state constitution to the voters at the 2010 general election. The amendment will allow the government to temporarily move the seat of government in certain emergency situations. In the event or imminent threat of a disaster, the Governor may issue an executive order declaring a disaster emergency and designate a temporary meeting location for the General Assembly. Upon convening at this location, the General Assembly may then designate a temporary location for all branches of the state government to relocate to for a specified period of time. The concurrent resolution is effective upon voter approval at the 2010 general election.

Background

Colorado's constitution requires that the seat of state government be located in the city and county of Denver. This location may not be changed by the General Assembly or by the governor. Under current law, the location may only change if approved by two-thirds of voters at a general election.

Assessment

Permitting the governor to designate a temporary meeting location for the General Assembly does not in itself impact state revenue or expenditures. For this reason, the concurrent resolution is assessed as having no fiscal impact. However, depending on the nature of an emergency, there will be costs to relocate state offices and to conduct the General Assembly in a temporary location. This analysis assumes these costs will be addressed through appropriations made during a session of the General Assembly at the temporary location.

Election Expenditure Impacts (For Informational Purposes Only)

The bill refers a measure to the voters at the November 2010 general election. This measure will be published in newspapers and an analysis of the measure will be included in the Blue Book mailed to all registered voter households prior to the election. Under current law, costs for these functions will be paid through a General Fund line item in the Long Appropriations Bill. Table 1 below identifies the anticipated costs for the 2010 Blue Book.

Table 1. Cost to Produce and Distribute the 2010 Blue Book to All Registered Voter Households	
Printing	\$400,000
Postage	\$450,000
Translation	\$20,000
Newspaper Publication (English & Spanish)	\$700,000
Total Cost (14 issues)	\$1,570,000
Average Cost per Issue	\$112,143

Departments Contacted

Governor's Office
Secretary of State

Judicial

Legislature