



Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
NO FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0364**Date:** January 26, 2010**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Sonnenberg
Sen. Renfroe**Bill Status:** House Judiciary**Fiscal Analyst:** Sara McPhee (303-866-4782)

TITLE: CONCERNING CONTROLLED AGRICULTURAL BURNS IN ARSON CASES.**Summary of Legislation**

This bill states that it is not considered arson if a person starts a fire as a controlled agricultural burn in a reasonably cautious manner and no one is injured or dies as a result. Controlled agricultural burn is defined as a farming technique used to clear the land of crop residue, weeds, or fuel buildup. The bill takes effect August 11, 2010, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 12, 2010, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

Assessment

This bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. It could result in fewer arson charges; however, the reduction in cases is expected to be low and will not be enough to justify a reduction in court staff. In the past three years, no one has been sentenced to the Department of Corrections for arson as the result of an agricultural burn.

Departments ContactedLaw
Public SafetyJudicial
Corrections

Agriculture