

**STATE
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0944

Date: April 19, 2010

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Kagan
Sen. Steadman

Bill Status: House Agriculture

Fiscal Analyst: David Porter (303-866-4375)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE RANGE WORKER ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
State Revenue		
Cash Funds		
Range Worker Advisory Council Cash Fund	\$ 3,520*	\$ 3,520*
State Expenditures		
Cash Funds		
Range Worker Advisory Council Cash Fund	\$ 3,520*	\$ 3,520*
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011: None required.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

* *State revenue and expenditures are conditional, contingent on support from gifts, grants, and donations.*

Summary of Legislation

This bill creates the 10-member Range Worker Advisory Council and specifies its composition. The council is charged with studying and discussing issues concerning range workers in Colorado who are working under the federal H-2A visa program for temporary nonimmigrant foreign agricultural workers. Provided sufficient funds from gifts, grants, and donations are available, council members are entitled to reimbursement of expenses. The bill creates the annually appropriated Range Worker Advisory Council Cash Fund for the receipt of gifts, grants, and donations and for the payment of administrative costs.

The council must meet 4 times annually and prepare a report for the business and agriculture committees of the General Assembly. The report is required by February 1, 2011, and includes the council's findings and proposed legislation. The bill repeals on January 1, 2014.

State Revenue

State revenue of \$3,520 is conditional, contingent on the receipt of gifts, grants, and donations. Revenue is to reimburse committee members for expenses indicated in the State Expenditures section. At this time, no source of gifts, grants, or donations has been identified.

State Expenditures

Reimbursing council members for their expenses will cost \$3,520 annually beginning in FY 2010-11, but these costs are conditional, contingent upon the receipt of sufficient gifts, grants, and donations. Costs are for council member expenses and are estimated based on the legislative reimbursement rate of \$88 per day for 10 members attending 4 meetings. If gifts, grants, and donations of less than \$3,520 are received, council members may be partially reimbursed for expenses.

This bill requires participation in the council by personnel from 2 state departments and the legislature. The workload associated with attending the council meetings is expected to be minimal, however, the amount of work associated with preparing for the meetings, producing the report, and developing recommended legislation is unknown. If the council work is substantial, departments may require assistance — contract or otherwise. This fiscal note assumes that this work will be accomplished within existing appropriations. In the event that work is more extensive, expenditures will be addressed through the annual budget process.

State Appropriations

This bill does not require an appropriation clause. If sufficient money is provided for the program from gifts, grants, and donations, the Department of Labor and Employment may need to seek spending authority via the annual budget process.

Departments Contacted

Labor and Employment
Governor's Office

Agriculture
Legislative Council