

**NO FISCAL IMPACT**

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<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 10-1124	<b>Date:</b> May 4, 2010
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Rep. Carroll T.; May Sen. Shaffer B.; Penry	<b>Bill Status:</b> House Agriculture
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**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE DOCUMENTATION ASSEMBLED BY THE STAFF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DURING PREPARATION OF THE BALLOT INFORMATION BOOKLET.

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill defines as "work product" all documents prepared by or submitted to the Legislative Council Staff in connection with the preparation of the ballot information booklet (blue book), including written comments received from the public. As such, these documents would not be subject to public inspection under the Colorado Open Records Act. However, the bill also provides an exception to the act so that the documents would become public records upon distribution of the blue book to electors in Colorado. The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor.

The blue book provides a summary and analysis of all statewide ballot measures, as well as arguments for and against each measure. Current law requires that the blue book be printed and mailed to all active registered voter households in Colorado at least 30 days before the election.

**Assessment**

The bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. It will not affect the costs of developing or publishing the blue book. The 2010 blue book is expected to cost about \$1.6 million, but these costs will vary depending on the number of statewide measures approved for the ballot. Table 1 below identifies the anticipated costs for the 2010 Blue Book.

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

**Departments Contacted**

Judicial

Legislature