



FINAL
FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 11-1048**Date:** June 29, 2011**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Roberts
Rep. Gardner B.**Bill Status:** Signed into Law**Fiscal Analyst:** Harry Zeid (303-866-4753)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES BY PERSONS OTHER THAN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**Summary of Legislation**

This bill, recommended by the **Committee on Legal Services**, amends statutes addressing the publication of the Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) to reflect federal copyright law. It repeals the requirement in current law that directs the Committee on Legal Services to copyright the CRS, but permits the committee, or its designee, to register a copyright for and in behalf of the state of Colorado in any and all original publications and editorial work that are ancillary to the statutes.

Under the bill, other publishers of the CRS who use the official text from the statutory database may state that their publications are officially sanctioned. The bill repeals the statutory penalties for the unauthorized publication of copyrighted materials.

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on May 23, 2011.

Assessment

The bill is assessed as no fiscal impact. State and local revenue and expenditures will be unaffected by the bill.

Current law provides a \$250 penalty for the publication, reprinting, or distribution of any part of the CRS that includes a notice or other indication that the statutes are official publications. The penalty applies to each and every book, volume, computer representation, or pamphlet published, printed, or distributed. The penalty is \$500 per occurrence for each violation where permission has not first been obtained from the Committee on Legal Services. While the bill repeals the statutory penalties for unauthorized publication, these penalties have never been imposed in the past. Therefore, eliminating the penalties will have no effect on state revenue.

Departments Contacted

Office of Legislative Legal Services