

NO FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 11-0397**Date:** January 21, 2011**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Giron; Newell**Bill Status:** Senate Local Government & Energy**Fiscal Analyst:** Alex Schatz (303-866-4375)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH CARE ACCESSIBILITY BY ENCOURAGING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO CONSIDER THE HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF THEIR COMMUNITIES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THEIR MASTER LAND USE PLANS.

Summary of Legislation

The bill authorizes local governments to include a community health element in their master land use plan or comprehensive plan. The community health element may address accessibility, availability, affordability, and delivery of health care and other health-related issues within the territorial boundaries of the local government. The bill authorizes planning commissions to consider population estimates and projections provided by the Department of Local Affairs. The bill takes effect August 10, 2011, assuming the General Assembly adjourns on May 11, 2011, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

Assessment

The bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. Local governments may voluntarily undertake the development of a community health element for land use plans. Costs for local governments to adopt a community health element are entirely dependent on the scope of considerations the local government elects to include in its planning process.

Local governments may contact the Department of Local Affairs, the Department of Public Health and Environment, and other state agencies for technical assistance under current law. For example, the State Demography Office within the Department of Local Affairs is currently charged with developing population estimates and projections within the state. The fiscal note assumes that consultation, coordination, and assistance between state and local agencies can be achieved within existing appropriations.

Departments Contacted

Local Affairs

Public Health and Environment