

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

STATE
FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 11-0733	Date: February 14, 2011
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Brophy Rep. Sonnenberg	Bill Status: Senate Transportation
	Fiscal Analyst: Kurtis Morrison (303-866-3140)

TITLE: CONCERNING AN EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES FROM EQUIPMENT RULES THAT APPLY TO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013
State Revenue		
Multiple Cash Funds	(less than \$5,000)	(less than \$5,000)
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: July 1, 2011.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2011-2012: None required.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

Summary of Legislation

Senate Bill 11-099 exempts the following vehicles from commercial vehicle safety rules and compliance inspections: pickup trucks, sport utility vehicles, and trailers with a gross combination rating of less than 26,001 pounds.

Background

State law provides that a commercial vehicle may not be operated on Colorado public highways if not in compliance with Department of Public Safety (DPS) administrative regulations regarding motor vehicle safety. DPS regulations include safety rules, driver qualifications, notification and reporting of accidents, driver hours of service, financial responsibility, and other related requirements. A commercial vehicle subject to the regulations is defined as a vehicle that is one of the following:

- used either for commercial purposes or designed to transport 16 or more passengers, self-propelled or towed, and affixed with an apportioned plate or having a gross vehicle weight or gross combination rating that exceeds 10,000 pounds;
- used commercially on public highways for towing, pulling, or lifting, and is equipped or designed to transport other motor vehicles; or
- used to transport hazardous materials pursuant to federal law.

Violations of DPS commercial vehicle regulations are a Class 2 misdemeanor traffic offense, punishable by a \$150 to \$300 fine, imprisonment of 10 to 90 days, or a combination of both; and a \$50 penalty and a \$16 surcharge.

State Revenue

The bill may have a minimal decrease on state cash fund revenue. By exempting certain vehicle types from commercial vehicle standards and regulations, fines and penalties are anticipated to decrease. Therefore, the bill may cause reduced fine and penalty revenue credited to various cash funds.

Departments Contacted

Public Safety

Revenue

Transportation