



Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
STATE
FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 11-0900
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Bacon
 Rep. Murray

Date: April 26, 2011
Bill Status: Senate SVMA
Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

TITLE: CONCERNING A MODIFICATION OF DEADLINES IN THE "FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT" GOVERNING THE REPORTING OF BASIC CAMPAIGN FINANCE INFORMATION.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013
State Revenue Cash Funds Department of State Cash Fund	Potential fine revenue (<\$5,000)	
State Expenditures	See State Expenditures section.	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: January 1, 2012.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2011-2012: None required.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

Summary of Legislation

The bill makes changes to the financial disclosure report filing deadlines for candidate committees, political committees, small donor committees, issue committees, and political parties under the Fair Campaign Practices Act. These disclosure reports provide information on the contributions, expenditures and debt of committees and parties. Specifically, the bill sets the following filing requirements for committees and political parties:

- quarterly filing on the 15th calendar day after the end of each quarter of an off-election year and the first quarter of an election year;
- monthly filing beginning on the 5th day of the month beginning in May of an election year, except that no monthly report is required in the month of the election;
- pre-election filing on the 14th day before a primary election or major election and on the 14th day and the Friday before a recall election; and
- post-election filing on the 35th day after a major election in election years, special legislative elections, and recall elections.

The bill eliminates some pre-election filings for primary elections. Similar changes are made for disclosure reports that are required to be filed with municipal clerks.

State Revenue

The bill increases the number of times that parties and committees are required to file disclosure reports by a small amount. This could increase the chances of a party or committee failing to file or filing late, which could result in fines being imposed by the Secretary of State. The increase in fine revenue to the Department of State Cash Fund is expected to be minimal (<\$5,000).

State Expenditures

The bill could increase workload in the Department of State to handle additional filings of disclosure reports, but the total impact is expected to be minimal. The department has an online filing system that can handle the increased filings with minimal impact on staff time. Increased follow-up may be required when reports are not filed or are filed late, but this can be accomplished by existing staff. Therefore, no appropriation is required at this time.

Departments Contacted

State Law