



Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
**LOCAL
 FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 12-0618
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Gardner B.
 Sen. Nicholson

Date: February 14, 2012
Bill Status: House Judiciary
Fiscal Analyst: Alex Schatz (303-866-4375)

TITLE: CONCERNING A LIMITATION ON LIABILITY FOR THE TREATMENT COSTS OF SPECIFIED HEALTH CARE CONDITIONS OF A PERSON IN CUSTODY.

| Fiscal Impact Summary | FY 2012-2013 | FY 2013-2014 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| State Revenue | | |
| State Expenditures | | |
| FTE Position Change | | |
| Effective Date: August 8, 2012, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2012, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013: None required. | | |
| Local Government Impact: Potential cost savings to municipal and county law enforcement. | | |

Summary of Legislation

The bill provides that persons in the custody of municipal jails are responsible for the cost of medical care for self-inflicted injuries or preexisting conditions. The bill also extends the responsibility of a person in custody to cover the cost of medical care to all situations where the person is in the custody or control of a county or municipal law enforcement agency.

Background

Under current law, a person held in the custody of a county jail is responsible for the cost of medical care related to self-inflicted injuries or preexisting conditions. The county operating a jail may seek payment or reimbursement for medical services rendered for such injuries or conditions.

Local Government Impact

Under current law, a municipality is responsible for the cost of medical care for a person in the custody of its jail, including self-inflicted injuries and preexisting conditions. The bill reduces costs to municipal law enforcement agencies for medical costs that will be reimbursed or billed directly to the person in custody. The bill also reduces costs to both municipal and county law

enforcement agencies for medical care when a person has self-inflicted injuries or a preexisting condition and is in custody, but has not been booked into a jail. Cost savings in arrest, transport, detention, and jail situations where persons in custody require medical care are expected to be significant but cannot be quantified for this analysis.

Departments Contacted

Corrections
Local Affairs

Judicial
Law

Public Safety
Human Services

Health Care Policy & Financing