

**STATE and LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 13-0055
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. McCann
 Sen. Todd

Date: April 22, 2013
Bill Status: House Health, Insurance and
 Environment
Fiscal Analyst: Hillary Smith (303-866-3277)

TITLE: CONCERNING CREATING A TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER PERSONS WHO POSE A THREAT OF HARM TO THEMSELVES OR OTHERS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
General Fund	\$25,792	\$14,880
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: Department of Human Services: \$25,792 General Fund.		
Local Government Impact: See Local Government Impact Section.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires the Colorado Department of Human Services (DHS) to convene a 27-member mental health and firearms task force to advise the General Assembly regarding issues surrounding the loss, maintenance, and restoration of the right to purchase and possess firearms by persons who, as a result of mental health issues, alcohol abuse, or substance abuse, are clearly dangerous to the health and safety of themselves or others. The bill specifically refers to individuals who:

- are taken into custody and placed in a facility designated or approved for 72-hour treatment and evaluation because they appear to have a mental illness and, as a result, appear to be an imminent danger to themselves or to others; or
- are committed, evaluated, and treated for a period of no more than five days because they are intoxicated or incapacitated by alcohol or drugs and are clearly dangerous to the health and safety of themselves or others.

The task force must meet at least five times, and the first meeting of the task force must occur no later than July 18, 2013. Meetings must be public. On or before January 15, 2015, the task force must submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees.

Members of the task force must serve without compensation and are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses. The Legislative Council Staff and the Office of Legislative Legal Services will not provide staff support to the task force. Members of the task force include four legislative members, as well as representatives of groups that advocate for gun safety, groups that advocate for firearms owners, stakeholders with experience in the treatment of persons with mental health issues, and representatives of the Colorado Department of Public Safety and other law enforcement agencies.

State Expenditures

The bill increases General Fund costs by **\$25,792 in FY 2013-14** and by **\$14,880 in FY 2014-15** in the Department of Human Services (DHS). These costs and other impacts of the bill are discussed below.

Task force staff. The DHS requires contract staff to assist the task force, schedule and hold meetings, conduct research, and write the required report and recommendations. It is assumed that this staff will work 16 hours per week over a nineteen-month period from July 2013 to January 2015 at a rate of \$31 per hour (832 hours x \$31/hour = \$25,792 in FY 2013-14 and 480 hours x \$31/hour = \$14,880 in FY 2014-15). The staff costs are based on the hourly equivalent of a General Professional IV.

Other departments. Although representatives of several other departments will be required to serve on the task force, this fiscal note assumes that this requirement will not result in the need for any additional appropriations.

Local Government Impact

The executive director of the Department of Public Safety is required to appoint various representatives of local governments to serve on the task force. Workload will increase for local government agencies with members on the task force. The cost of this increased workload will vary by entity and has not been quantified.

State Appropriations

The Department of Human Services requires \$25,792 General Fund in FY 2013-14.

Departments Contacted

Counties
Governor's Office
Judicial
Legislative Council Staff
Military Affairs
Office of Legislative Legal Services
Sheriffs

District Attorneys
Human Services
Law
Local Affairs
Municipalities
Public Safety