

**STATE
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 14-0731	Date: February 4, 2014
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Kefalas; Lundberg Rep. Sonnenberg; Foote	Bill Status: Senate SVMA Fiscal Analyst: Lauren Schreier (303-866-3523)

SHORT TITLE: CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR VOLUNTEERS AT EMERGENCIES

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal reduction.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, volunteer firefighters participating in firefighting efforts or providing emergency care, rescue, or assistance at the scene of an emergency, have limited immunity from potential civil damages. The bill extends the same limited immunity, granted to volunteer firefighters, to include other volunteers from the community. The immunity applies to all good faith efforts to respond to an emergency, and the exemption does not apply to grossly negligent or reckless acts or omissions.

State Expenditures

The Judicial Branch may see a slight reduction in civil trial court cases under the bill. The Judicial Branch does not specifically track the number of civil case filings against community volunteers engaging in firefighting or emergency service activities, but the number of cases is considered minimal. However, future civil filings against community volunteers are eliminated, and minimal fiscal savings may be realized.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties Judicial Municipalities Law