

Background

Current law requires the LCS to prepare fiscal impact statements for ballot measures as part of its Blue Book analysis. The Blue Book is the official voter guide for statewide ballot measures and includes a summary and analysis of each ballot measure, an estimate of its fiscal impact and a description of the arguments for and against a measure. It is distributed to all registered voter households about one month prior to election day. Under current law, ballot initiative proponents generally do not submit a fiscal impact estimate of their measure.

State Expenditures

The bill increase expenditures for the LCS by \$22,255 in FY 2015-16 and \$22,404 in FY 2016-17. Table 1 summarizes expenditures under the bill.

Table 1. Expenditures Under HB 15-1057		
Cost Components	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
Personal Services	\$18,414	\$18,414
FTE	0.3 FTE	0.3 FTE
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$3,841	\$3,990
TOTAL	\$22,255	\$22,404

* Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Assumptions. This fiscal note assumes that the title board will consider about 40 ballot initiatives per year, or roughly the same number that it considered over the past seven years. The fiscal note also assumes that each new ballot initiative fiscal impact statement will require about 14 hours of staff time, including research, drafting, editing, and review.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are estimated in the fiscal note for informational purposes and summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Centrally Appropriated Costs Under HB 15-1057*		
Cost Components	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$2,414	\$2,414
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	\$1,427	\$1,576
TOTAL	\$3,841	\$3,990

*More information is available at: <http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes>

Effective Date

The bill takes effect January 1, 2016, if no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

The bill requires an appropriation of \$18,414 in FY 2015-16 to the Legislative Department for allocation to the LCS.

State and Local Government Contacts

State

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