

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

**STATE and LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 15-0349
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Hamner

Date: January 12, 2015
Bill Status: House Judiciary
Fiscal Analyst: Kerry White (303-866-3469)

BILL TOPIC: PROTECTION ORDERS SEX OFFENSE CASES

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires that a defendant involved in a case of unlawful sexual behavior acknowledge a protection order in court and in writing prior to release on bond. It also allows a defendant or prosecuting attorney to request a hearing to modify terms of a protection order issued in such cases.

Background

In FY 2013-14, there were 1,700 felony sex offense cases and 520 misdemeanor sex offense cases filed. Under current law, a protection order is mandatory in these cases.

State Expenditures

This bill will increase workload for the trial courts and the agencies within the Judicial Department that provide representation to criminal defendants by a minimal amount. By allowing a defendant or prosecuting attorney to request a hearing to modify the terms of a protection order issued in a case involving unlawful sexual behavior the number of hearings and associated workload will increase. Because this bill codifies what is current practice in many courts, the fiscal note assumes any increase in workload will be minimal and no new appropriations are required for any agency of the Judicial Department. Should workload increase beyond expectations, an impacted agency will request additional appropriations through the annual budget process.

Local Government Impact

Similar to the courts, workload may increase by a minimal amount for district attorneys seeking to modify the terms of a protection order issued in a case involving unlawful sexual behavior.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Municipalities

District Attorneys
Sheriffs

Judicial