

**LOCAL  
FISCAL IMPACT**

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<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 15-0564	<b>Date:</b> January 21, 2015
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Rep. Thurlow Sen. Lambert	<b>Bill Status:</b> House Local Government
	<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

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**BILL TOPIC:** PUBLISH COUNTY FISCAL INFORMATION ON-LINE

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
<b>Appropriation Required:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

Under current law, counties must publish an expenditure report each month and a financial statement twice a year in at least one legal newspaper. In counties where no legal newspaper is available, this information must be published in the newspaper of an adjacent county that has general circulation within the county, or in three conspicuous places within the county, such as the county courthouse.

This bill permits a county to publish the required information either on the county web site or in a local newspaper. Additionally, the bill requires that salary warrants be included in the information disclosed in the expenditure reports.

**Local Government Impact**

For any county that chooses to publish this information on a county website instead of in a local newspaper, there will be a cost savings. For example, Mesa County, with a population of about 147,544 residents, reports that they traditionally spend \$25,000 each year to publish monthly expenditure reports and semiannual financial statements.

This fiscal note assumes that the top ten counties have similar expenses for publishing financial information, spending about \$25,000 annually; medium-sized counties with populations between 10,000 and 60,000 residents traditionally spend about \$8,500 annually; and, the smallest counties with populations under 10,000 typically spend about \$4,000 annually. Under this bill, counties may publish this information online at virtually no cost, therefore saving this annual expense.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 5, 2015, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2015, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed, and applies to expenditure reports and financial statement published by a county on or after January 1, 2016.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties

Local Affairs