



Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff

HB16-1193

## FISCAL NOTE

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**  State  Local  Statutory Public Entity  Conditional  No Fiscal Impact

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**Drafting Number:** LLS 16-0916  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Hamner  
Sen. Lambert

**Date:** February 5, 2016  
**Bill Status:** House Judiciary  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

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**BILL TOPIC:** ELECTRONIC ACCESS OFFICE OF RESPONDENT PARENTS' COUNSEL

### Summary of Legislation

The bill, *recommended by the Joint Budget Committee*, grants electronic access to the name index and register of actions databases of the Judicial Department to attorneys working as respondent parents' counsel under contract with the Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel (ORPC).

### Background

Respondent parents' counsel are appointed by the court to represent indigent parents involved in dependency and neglect cases. Senate Bill 14-203 led to the creation of the ORPC as an independent judicial agency to manage the appointment of respondent parents' counsel. The ORPC began work on January 1, 2016, and will assume responsibility for payment of respondent parents' counsel on July 1, 2016.

### Assessment

The bill will have no expenditure or revenue impact on the Judicial Department or any state agency and is assessed as having no fiscal impact. Under current law, respondent parents' counsel appointed by the court and paid by the Judicial Department have access to these databases. This bill clarifies state statute to ensure that respondent parents' counsel continue to have access to these databases after the payment authority for these attorneys shifts from the Judicial Department to the newly created ORPC.

### Effective Date

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

### State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Judicial