

## FISCAL IMPACT

Rep. Gardner Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

TITLE: CONCERNING CLOSING A COURT TO THE PUBLIC WHEN SEXUALLY

EXPLOITATIVE MATERIAL RELATED TO A SPECIFIC CHILD IS BEING

PRESENTED AS EVIDENCE.

| Fiscal Impact Summary   | FY 2013-2014                             | FY 2014-2015 |
|---|--|--------------|
| State Revenue   |  |              |
| State Expenditures  | Minimal. See State Expenditures section. |              |
| FTE Position Change   |  |              |
| Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature. |  |              |
| Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: None required.                                      |  |              |
| Local Government Impact: None.  |  |              |

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill allows a court to close proceedings to the public when images of sexually exploitative materials or forensic interviews directly related to a child are being presented as evidence and the child or the forensic interviewer is on the witness stand. Limiting public access is at the discretion of the court based on the best interest of the child.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill may require minor procedural changes and additional rulings by judges in cases where such evidence is presented. However, any increase in workload is expected to be minimal and can be absorbed within existing appropriations.

## **Departments Contacted**

Judicial Branch