



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-064: MODIFY CO AGRICULTURAL FUTURE LOAN PROGRAM

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Simpson; Roberts
Rep. McCormick; Soper

Fiscal Analyst:

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Version: Initial Fiscal Note

Date: January 30, 2026

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill expands eligibility for loans from the Colorado Agricultural Future Loan Program in the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on a one-time basis:

- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, eligible businesses, farmers, and ranchers may participate in the Agricultural Future Loan Program in the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA). The bill expands eligible recipients to include entities certified by the Division of Conservation in the Department of Regulatory Agencies; water conservancy, water conservation, and water and sanitation districts; irrigation districts; and ditch and reservoir companies.

The CDA must adopt rules for allowing additional loan recipients and prioritizing loans to entities seeking loans to acquire and conserve agriculturally productive land, and then transfer ownership of the land to a farmer or rancher who qualifies for a loan from the program.

State Expenditures

The bill expands eligible recipients of the loan program without other substantive changes. This increases the number of potential recipients of loans, but does not change the overall cost of the program or the workload effort of the CDA to originate loans and administer the program. The department will have minimal workload increase to update internal guidance documents and marketing materials; however, this workload does not require any change in appropriations.

Local Government

Some irrigation and water districts will now be eligible to receive loans from the program, potentially increasing that local government's revenue from any loan proceeds, and expenditures on eligible projects and loan repayments.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed and applies to applications submitted on or after that date.

State and Local Government Contacts

Agriculture

Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).