



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 26-1278: LOC GOV APPROVAL OF TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Richardson  
Sen. Pelton R.; Snyder

**Fiscal Analyst:**

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**Published for:** House Energy & Environment**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0106**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** March 3, 2026**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

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### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill requires investor-owned electric utilities to obtain local government land use approvals and permits before condemning a property for a high-voltage transmission infrastructure project.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Local Government

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

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**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

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Under current law, an investor-owned electric utility must receive a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Public Utilities Commission before initiating condemnation proceedings related to a high-voltage transmission infrastructure project. The bill requires the utility to also obtain all necessary local government land use permits and approvals before condemning a property. The bill does not apply to a local government's initial permits and approvals required for utilities' transmission infrastructure.

## Local Government

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The bill may minimally increase workload for local governments to ensure that utilities have followed all multijurisdictional codes and applications for land use permits prior to actions of eminent domain by the utility.

## Effective Date

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The bill takes effect January 1, 2027, assuming no referendum petition is filed. It applies to condemnation proceedings initiated on or after this date.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Counties

Municipal Utilities

Local Affairs

Regulatory Agencies

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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](#).