



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-158: YOUTHFUL OFFENDER EARLY PAROLE PROCEDURE

Prime Sponsors:
Sen. Weissman; Ball
Rep. Carter; Espenozza

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill modifies the parole procedures for youthful offenders.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis starting in FY 2026-27:

- Minimal State Expenditures

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

Current law establishes parole procedures for offenders who were convicted of a felony offense as an adult when they were under the age of 21, known as the Juveniles and Young Adults Convicted as Adults Program (JYACAP). The bill allows the Parole Board, in addition to the Governor, to grant early parole to these offenders if they have successfully completed a specialized program and if the Parole Board determines that extraordinary mitigating circumstances exist. The Parole Board must consider relevant information presented by a person or agency.

The bill preserves the process under current law where the Parole Board provides recommendations to the Governor. However, the Governor must now act on board recommendations within 60 days of receipt. The Governor's decision is considered final. If the Governor does not act on a recommendation within 60 days, the Parole Board's recommendation is considered final. This 60-day requirement also applies to any Parole Board recommendations received by the Governor prior to the bill's effective date.

JYACAP specialized programming must include requirements that the offender:

- acknowledge the impact of crime on victims and the ongoing trauma that crime survivors experience;
- if applicable, acknowledge the impact of the offender's own trauma on their criminal or other negative behavior; and
- identify interventions to prevent the offender's trauma from impacting successful reintegration into the community.

Finally, the Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC) is required to provide a status report on JYACAP participants who were granted early parole by the Parole Board during its annual SMART Act hearing.

Background

As of writing, four JYACAP graduates from 2024 and seven from 2025 are awaiting a decision from the Governor.

State Expenditures

The fiscal note does not estimate a change in the prison population as a result of the bill. While the bill compresses timelines for the Governor to act on recommendations to grant early parole to JYACAP participants, the release of these offenders is still contingent upon the Governor's actions. Additionally, since the process exists under current law, it is assumed that any parole

impacts are part of existing prison population forecasts. No change in CDOC appropriations is required. All other workload impacts are assumed to be minimal.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

State and Local Government Contacts

Corrections

Judicial

District Attorneys

Office of the Child's Representative

Governor

Public Defender

Human Services

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](#).