



Fiscal Summary

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Measure: Initiative 312 – COST OF NATURAL GAS PIPELINE EXTENSIONS

Analyst: Colin Gaiser, colin.gaiser@coleg.gov, 303-866-2677

Date: April 13, 2026

Fiscal Summary of Initiative 312

This fiscal summary, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council, contains a preliminary assessment of the measure's fiscal impact. A full fiscal impact statement for this initiative is or will be available at leg.colorado.gov/bluebook. This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

State Expenditures

The measure increases workload for the Public Utilities Commission in the Department of Regulatory Agencies to update or adopt rules prohibiting certain rate increases for existing customers.

Local Government

The measure impacts municipal utilities that are implementing or pursuing a natural gas pipeline extension. If a municipal utility is planning to pay for a pipeline extension by raising utility bill rates of existing customers, it would need to identify a different funding source for the project.

Economic Impacts

If the measure prevents some customers from having their utility bill rates increased for a natural gas pipeline extension, this results in more income for consumers to spend, save, or invest elsewhere in the economy. The measure may alternatively impact the spending, saving, or investing of customers that bear the cost of pipeline extensions, or impact the profit margins and investment decisions of impacted utilities. The measure may also impact the geographic distribution of investment and development. If the measure prevents utilities from extending a natural gas pipeline, some households and businesses may have increased costs to access natural gas from other sources or for energy substitutes.